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REVIEW  
FOR THE GRAND  
ENCAMPMENT  
KNIGHTS  
TEMPLAR  
OF THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA

THE UNIVERSITY  
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PREPARED BY  
WILLIAM HENRY TESTER  
EMINENT PAST COMMANDER  
OFFICIAL REVIEWER  
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

*RISE UP, O MEN OF GOD!*

*Rise up, O men of God!  
Have done with lesser things,  
Give heart, and soul, and mind, and strength  
To serve the King of Kings.*

*Rise up, O men of God!  
His kingdom tarries long.  
Bring in the day of brotherhood  
And end the night of wrong.*

*Lift high the cross of Christ!  
Tread where His feet have trod.  
As brothers of the Son of Man,  
Rise up, O men of God!*

—WILLIAM PEIRSON MERRILL.

REVIEW  
FOR THE  
GRAND ENCAMPMENT  
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



*Prepared by*  
WILLIAM HENRY TESTER  
*Eminent Past Commander*  
*Official Reviewer*  
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

## FOREWORD

It took some courage to embark on this adventure, trying to find in the shifting sands of time the footsteps of my illustrious predecessors. Their shadows shall be my shelter from the scorching sun of criticism, which I pray may be of a constructive character.

This adventure into the world of Templary has been most interesting. Here in my study I have sat in on all the Conclaves of the Grand Commanderies of the Grand Encampment for 1938, and I must add, that of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, which, including that of my own Grand Commandery's Annual Conclave, were actual, not imaginative as were the others.

Each Grand Jurisdiction presents a different picture, and, a different mood, optimism, pessimism, but for the most part optimism.

Here, let me say that I was attracted to Masonry, and particularly to Templary, because I had discovered it was founded upon the Christian Religion and the practice of the Christian Virtues.

My introduction to the existence of modern Templary was in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1886, where as a youth I saw the Sir Knights in their splendid uniforms and plumed chapeaux, during the Twenty-third Triennial, in numerous parades, headed by flying flags and wonderful bands, followed by the uniformed Sir Knights in stately march, and with the insignia of Christian Knighthood in manifold evidence, on the uniforms of the Sir Knights, the banners which they carried, as decorations on the streets and in the shop windows, and everywhere the sign of the Cross and Crown, and over it, "Welcome Sir Knights." The sight inspired me with a strong desire to some day be one among them, and with them to become a sworn defender of that faith I had learned at my mother's knee.

Time passed, events transpired, and in due course I reached the threshold of the Asylum of Lochinvar Commandery No. 52, Coffeyville, Kansas. There my aspirations were realized as I was admitted among a body of men grounded in the precepts and practices of the Christian Religion.

As I mature in my contacts and experiences in Christian Knighthood I find but one condition that; were it in my power to do so, I would endeavor to correct; that is the severance of those organizations that have attached themselves to the body of Masonry, and from where I sit, appear to have deprived its membership of that proper interest due from them to the Masonic Body, by the diversion of their energy and use of their time into channels of revelry and forgetfulness of the solemn vows made at the altar of Masonry, and particularly to Christian Knighthood. I speak as one having experience!

*1939-1940) Texas collection*

Masonry within itself furnishes a fine outlet for the temporary relaxation from the inner teachings and work of the Craft, which afford abundant opportunity for mental and physical relaxation and refreshment so necessary to continuous, enthusiastic search for truth, and the attainments of the finer elements of life and that develop it to its fullest achievement.

The men who constitute the body of Templary are men sworn to the defense of the Christian Religion. Bound by solemn vows are they to the relief of the destitute and oppressed, and in a brother's cause to do all that may become men. In other words they are the sworn allies and defenders of the church, under whatever set of doctrines or rules it may function. Christ, the Saviour of the world is their outstanding leader.

The steps through the parental bodies have, as in the Lodge, inculcated the tenets of brotherly love, relief and truth. Proper emphasis has been laid on the basic principles of Freemasonry.

A broadening of the mental outlook has given the enquiring mind the desire to exercise the tenets of Brotherly love, Relief and Truth, to regard the whole human species as one family—the high, the low, the rich and the poor—bringing together men of every country, sect and opinion.

Totalitarian dictators recognize this principle and the activity of its adherents in their exemplification.

Their first step therefore, is to crush such organizations and confiscate their property. Liberty of speech and worship vanish with the coming of the dictator and their peoples live under the shadow of the sword should they by word or act run contra to their dictator.

On the other hand, in the great democracies of the United States and Great Britain, Masonry flourishes, and men active in the administration of governmental affairs are proud to be known as Masons.

Let us view for a moment, too, another phase as it pertains to those millions of us in the common walks of life—the man and the woman who toil daily for a livelihood—and yet are kings and queens in their own right of liberty and conscience and the right of worship according to the impulses of their own conscience and in the guarantee of property rights and material welfare.

Those of us who from our mother's knee have been taught to say, "Now I lay me down to sleep," and, "Our Father," look back upon those happy days when mother and father were in our minds, the queen and king of all the earth, we must give thanks for such an initiation into the journey of life. And so we grow.

(As I write these lines, with my radio turned low I hear the New Year greeted in Halifax, Nova Scotia, followed later by the chimes of Old Trinity Church, New York, and on across the United States). Time

passes on we become men who have reached a period in life where a supporting companionship among our fellows is necessary. Many are active members of young peoples groups, church bodies, and kindred organizations—but still there is an unsatisfied desire for fellowship with the men of our business world who have their spiritual anchorage in the church, but no cross section linking one with the other. Then comes the discovery that Freemasonry fills that need, binding together members of the various religious bodies, and men of the world of strong moral convictions, and a firm faith in the existence of a Supreme Being. Of such is the Body of Masonry.

Among these are found men of strong cultural and religious trends who find an outlet for further Masonic education in pursuing the unfolding of the teachings of the York and Scottish Rites of the Craft.

The York Rite culminating in the majestically sublime Order of the Temple reached through the gradations of Royal Arch Masonry—the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross teaching Truth is mighty above all things—the Order of Malta laying a deep evangelical Christian foundation, with its sharply defined enunciation of faith in the merits of the Saviour of Mankind to save fallen man. Then the Order of the Temple and the unforgettable soul searching experiences found there which tend to fortify man to overcome his tendency to evil, and inspires him to live to do good. To become more useful and interested in their own church life by reason of the broadening influences discovered and experienced through progress in Masonry.

Templary is an essential and vital factor in the spread of the Christian faith and the maintenance of a close bond of fellowship on a common ground with men who are fully conscious that, "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."

So as Knights Templar we are to meet the greatest discouragements which may come to us bravely and with cheerfulness, feeding the hungry, binding wounds, aiding the sick physically and mentally, shielding innocent maidens, destitute widows and friendless orphans. To be ever strong in defense of Truth, Justice and Religion.

The survey of the various Proceedings discloses a strong similarity of conditions. Men are pretty much alike wherever found in Templary. In all Jurisdictions we find outstanding examples of Christian Knighthood.

We find true and valiant knights are chosen for the leadership of the Grand Commanderies, with the varying memberships from 300 in Nevada, to 27,000 in Pennsylvania, we run the whole gamut of human understanding, appreciation and applications of the objectives of Freemasonry and their development in type as citizens of our outstanding democracy among the family of the nations of the earth past and present. What of the future?

Like the tides of the great oceans, we may never be at rest—we must flow or ebb. To live and grow we must flow—to ebb is to become decadent.

It is therefore "beyond dispute" that a fuller understanding of the ideals and principles must be developed and propagated. This can be accomplished only through the agencies of the Constituent Commanderies and the appreciation of the Templar objectives by their membership. In the smaller and remote Commanderies the inspiration received by contact with outstanding Templars of their own and neighboring jurisdictions through fraternal visits will be found most helpful, in building up a strong morale and leadership.

Our unquestioned duty is to bring those about us to a firm understanding that God still reigns—that Jesus Christ His only beloved Son came to us as His Supreme Gift to mankind for all the ages for their redemption from sin, and to lay down for our government the basic principles enunciated in the Sermon on the Mount, whose acceptance and practice will bring to us peace of mind here on earth, and the satisfaction that after this life we have a haven of happiness beyond definitely set forth by our Lord when He said, "Let not your heart be troubled ye believe in God, believe also in me \* \* \* I go to prepare a place for you \* \* \* that where I am there ye may be also."

Incontestable is the fact of His Birth, Life, Death, Resurrection and Ascension. Incontestable, then, are His words setting before us the promise of life eternal.

In a recent editorial in the "United States News" by that gifted writer and speaker, David H. Lawrence, is found a testimony of faith in a righteous God, the efficacy of mass prayer, and the power of Moral Force. It is the strongest secular appeal for the increase of concrete religion this writer has ever contacted.

Mr. Lawrence voices the potency of personal prayer common to all liberty loving, God fearing peoples the world over, including all races, colors and creeds for the restoration of peace and full appreciation of liberty in the minds of rulers and people, and deliverance from persecution of racial minorities, and for the return of government from dictators to the people.

Let us then as Knights Templar become acutely conscious of our sworn duty to carry to our fellows by our own acts and lives the sweet influences of the only religion that has stood the test of centuries of experience and developed the outstanding, though far from perfect, civilization of all ages.

Out then with indifference and slothfulness. Meditate on our vows and diligently persevere in spreading our good news. "The will to do" will put it over.

Un-Americanisms cannot root with Christianity. Let us be up and doing. "The night cometh when no man can work."

The Educational Foundation is our outstanding achievement. Templary of the future will look back upon the New Orleans Triennial of 1922 which gave it birth, and which our late, lamented Sir Knight Joseph Kyle Orr, Most Eminent Past Grand Master, who passed to his eternal reward September 18, 1938, was the author.

We have gathered a rich experience in the administration of its funds. Our faith in the honor of youth has received its shocks as a result of the application of the honor system in making the early loans. We now realize the necessity for something to convert honor from the abstract to tangible form is imperative, and this has been brought to pass.

Loaning operations for the past several years under the supervision of the Grand Encampment have been much more successful than in preceding years. All jurisdictions show increased collections of principal and interest and a reduction in the number of uncollectible notes.

Those sponsoring candidates for loans are exercising great care in selecting them—not only from the viewpoint of ultimate probability of repayment, but also as to the mental qualifications and trends of the applicant. Some high school graduates are natural born mechanics, plumbers, or carpenters or other such callings where their inherent qualifications can best be developed by apprenticeship in actual connection with their vocational trends and so profitably employ time that would be wasted in university years and the subsequent discovery of their true placing in life for a successful career and a happier life.

While the entrance of the government into the student loan field has slowed the demand for funds from our Foundation—we should feel no alarm—but constantly keep our facilities before our membership that they may be fully informed in order to successfully pass the information to prospective borrowers, and our willingness to assist them complete their education.

Statistics have been but briefly touched in the body of the Review. The desire for statistics may be fully satisfied by reference to the alphabetical summary at the conclusion of the Review, to which your attention is cordially invited.

The honor conferred on this writer is immeasurable, and the many delightful new contacts made with the noble host of Templary, associated with the effort have added greatly to the pleasure of the work.

Courteously submitted,  
WILLIAM H. TESTER,  
*Official Reviewer.*

Memphis, Tennessee,  
December 31, 1938.

## ALABAMA

It is indeed a pleasure to open the book of Proceedings of this happily situated state, rich in deposits of coal, iron ore, limestone, and various kinds of clays usable in production of pottery, brick, tile and other articles of clay. Blessed with an abundance of forest for lumber production, and plains for the production of food stuffs from peanuts to pancakes ready for the hungry man, syrup and everything. On this land fell the shadow of DeSoto, the ambitious explorer, in 1540. In this State the Alleghenies find their terminus, and here some tired homeseekers later settled down saying, "Here we rest." Indeed the land contains everything conducive to human happiness. Industry has founded great steel and other plants there, affording profitable and continuous employment for thousands. Getting back to the book we are forthwith greeted by the portrait of Sir Knight Henry Jefferson Porter, Jr., Right Eminent Grand Commander, in full Templar uniform. Of him his biographer writes:

"He has long been an ardent, faithful and tireless worker for the Fraternity, and is a staunch and loyal friend."

The Sixty-eighth Annual Conclave convened in Montgomery April 27, with all Grand Officers present, after having attended Divine Service at Saint John's Episcopal Church, where the Sir Knight and Reverend Peter M. Dennis, Eminent Past Commander, delivered a sermon based on the text, "My Father's God." He asks the assembled Sir Knights, "Have we the courage and the zeal for the faith we should have? Are we loyal loving followers of the Lord?" He tells them:

"The manifestation of our faith must be bold! We must proclaim our belief in God with no uncertain voice! Our lives must be strengthened with spiritual power, we must make a complete surrender to God. So often we make reservations when we surrender and the giving of ourselves is not complete. Let us say, 'Use me Lord, just as thou wilt and when and where.' \* \* \* Sir Knights, Templarism is a religious order. We have a very definite task to perform. Are we equal to the task? Pray God that we may have our rightful place in the battle line for the Most High. \* \* \* In all of this it is well to remember that our children are looking to us in this day as we looked to our fathers in the days of our youth. Do they see earnest, loyal, devout Christian men? Pray God that they do. May we stand in the light and be not ashamed!"

This sermon must have fired the hearts of every Sir Knight present and developed a determination to go forth into the world with a solemn vow on lips and in heart to so let their light shine that men may know they are reconsecrated soldiers of the Cross.

The outstanding Templar present was Sir Knight Leonidas P. Newby, Most Eminent Past Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., as the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., who was formally received with the honors due his rank. From the Grand Com-

mander's Address we learn that he was active in his visitations of constituent commanderies, and that on October 27, 1937, he visited Chattanooga Commandery No. 32 at its annual inspection, at which the Grand Commander of Tennessee was also present in the person of Sir Knight Arch Erwin McClanahan. He reports the full form opening. Tactical and Ritual work beautifully done, followed by the conferring of the Order of the Temple in a most impressive manner. He further reports being elected an honorary member of that Commandery. He makes a most interesting report of his attendance at the Fortieth Triennial Conclave at Miami in July, 1937. Christmas and Easter observance is duly reported. As to how well the services were attended the Grand Commander's report does not say. Five dispensations were granted to take care of routine matters. One dispensation request to make bargain rates in a drive for membership was properly denied. Templary gains nothing by attempts to make it appear cheap.

Of the Educational Foundation he reports that accounts with individual borrowers need adjusting to be in conformity with the law as set out by the Grand Encampment. He further finds uncollectible loans being carried as assets and recommends that active steps be taken to clear the record of such. He suggests that:

"Every applicant for a loan as well as those to whom loans have been made should be thoroughly checked and analysed. To handle this work in a thorough way this Committee should be able to hold regular meetings, which under the present set up is impractical and almost impossible."

Speaking of consolidations, he believes that in Birmingham where there are at present six commanderies a consolidation would be a distinct advantage. He finds that consolidation of commanderies in other locations would also strengthen Templary. It would be for the general welfare of Templary in these days of good roads and general ownership of automobiles by Sir Knights that a survey be made by each Grand Commandery, strategic points chosen for Commandery locations, considering Asylum facilities and accessibility from near by points where other commanderies are located, and urge a general consolidation. This would add to the consolidated organization the strength of numbers, talent in the rendition of the work, and greater zeal for the cause, for the reason the Order would thereby be restored to its full prestige and glory. Dull dreary conclaves, poorly attended would become history, tactical and ritual work by force of numbers and interest would draw out the membership in large numbers, and petitioners for the Orders would receive their Orders in such impressive manner that they would have nothing but a continuous inspiration possessing them, and a strong desire to carry on. Greater opportunity is afforded too for desirable social gatherings including the families of the Sir Knights.

This phase of Templary is really necessary for continued growth. The recommendations of the Grand Commander display a breadth of

vision rarely exhibited. There are sixteen of them emanating from a mind sold on the successful future for Templary. I only wish space would permit me to list them.

Says Sir Knight Leonidas P. Newby in part in an address before the Grand Commandery:

"The Order of Christian Knighthood seeks at all times to give to its votaries an exalted idea of the value of life and the importance of its duties; it holds up as a most sublime truth the immortality of the soul; it teaches that the Cross is a symbol of Eternal Life, and hallowed as it is by the blood of so many martyrs has become the especial symbol of immortality, won by sorrow and suffering. It presents an idea sublime enough and broad enough to embrace all of the world's greatest benefactions and to inspire the ambition of its membership to the greatest efforts in behalf of humanity. \* \* \* The purposes of the Order of Knighthood are at all times sacred, as they should be, and those who confer the orders are standing on holy ground."

#### REVIEW

There is no Review.

JAMES M. FRAZIER,  
Opelika, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

GUY T. SMITH,  
Montgomery, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Birmingham, April 26, 1939.

#### ARIZONA

Arizona Proceedings reached my desk just sixty days following their Forty-fifth Annual Conclave, which was held in Tucson April 4; with all Grand Officers present. Opening the book we gaze in admiration on the very fine portrait of Sir Knight Shelton Gillespie Dowell, in full Templar uniform. Such portraits suitably adorn and give standing to a report of Templar proceedings. As Right Eminent Grand Commander for the year closing he gave a good account, and rendered active service in the cause of Templary.

The Grand Commandery convened in the Scottish Rite Cathedral at 10:00 A. M., and at roll call all Commanderies were represented. Nine Past Grand Commanders also reported. The Most Eminent Grand Master was not represented. Twenty-eight Grand Representatives also answered roll call. Sir Knight Shelton Gillespie Dowell, Right Eminent Grand Commander, presented his report of his year of service. Opening he says:

"While we find peace and harmony within our own ranks, throughout the world, east and west, we find unrest among the nations. Those, who formerly were friends, are ready to spring to arms. We can feel the anxiety and unrest among our fellow Sir Knights who reside in those countries. May we extend them our moral support."

Sixteen commissions were issued to Arizona Grand Representatives near other Grand Commanderies, while ten Commissions were received for Grand Representatives of other Jurisdictions near the Grand Commandery of Arizona. The usual circular to observe the birth anniversary of Our Lord was issued.

The Grand Commander visited nine of the Commanderies under his jurisdiction during the year. Of the Student Loan Fund the Grand Commander says:

"Has made excellent progress during the year. The committee has reported that \$1,422.84 was collected on principal and interest for the past year. There is now \$3,980.00 outstanding, and one \$50.00 loan was made during the year."

Continuing the Grand Commander says:

"The Annual York Rite Festival was held in the city of Phoenix October 25-27. Wednesday the 27th was devoted to the Orders of Knighthood."

Orders received from the Grand Encampment during the year were duly acknowledged. Two dispensations were issued, both to receive and ballot upon petitions for the Orders at Special Conclaves in order that the candidates might participate in receiving the Orders at the York Rite Festival of October 27. This action is commendable.

In closing the Grand Commander states that he found all Commanderies active, so far as conferring the Orders, in good financial shape, and all officers familiar with their official duties. He reports a net loss of six members for the year as compared with twenty the preceding year.

From the Educational Loan Foundation Committee Report we learn that the Fund is in good condition.

"A comparison of the financial statement with last year's report shows that 20 of the 49 students to whom loans have been made have repaid their loans in full. Several others have practically completed their payments. During the year, initial payments were made by four students on their loans, two of which loans were long overdue. \* \* \* Our report shows, however, that 10 students have paid nothing on their loans aggregating \$1,760.00. Some of these are long overdue and it is doubtful if any recovery can be made on them. In view of some of the surprises we have had this year in the way of payments, however, your committee is unwilling to state that these loans are total losses, and it is hoped that as these young people get on their feet financially, they will attempt to fulfill the obligation which they incurred to the Grand Commandery. Only one loan was made during the year and that was paid off before the end of the year."

With the fine committee at work there is no doubt but that next year will show that more of the young people possess that fine sense of honor and will at opportunity pay in full.

The committee on Address of the Grand Commander heartily commends his services to the Grand Commandery. At the afternoon session the Grand Representatives were received and greeted by the Grand Commander. Sir Knight Robert B. Gaylord telegraphed his regrets, illness detaining him.

A resolution was adopted by the Grand Commandery expressing its gratification on the appointment of Sir Knight Gordon H. Sawyer, Right Eminent Past Commander, as a member of the Finance Committee, and a copy was ordered mailed to the Most Eminent Grand Master. The committee on Promotion of Templarism reports in part as follows:

"Perhaps the one outstanding thing that should be done and could be done is for each member of this great organization to support his Lodge, Chapter and Commandery in all their Masonic activities to his utmost ability. The York Rite Festival is accomplishing much good and should be continued and encouraged, for this is a fertile field and offers great possibilities. \* \* \* Each Commandery has its problems and will have its local opportunities to encourage its younger men and membership in meeting these problems of the day, for modern Templarism. In these connections we urge the best efforts of everyone."

With the Annual election and installation of the new officers, and the reading of the minutes the Grand Commandery adjourned.

SIR KNIGHT ARNOLD CRUICKSHANK,  
Prescott, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT ANTHONY ARTHUR JOHNS,  
Tucson, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Douglas, March 27, 1939.

## ARKANSAS

Opening the proceedings of the Sixty-sixth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Arkansas, held at Hot Springs on May 17, 1938, we are greeted by a portrait of the newly elected Sir Knight James H. Penick, Right Eminent Grand Commander for 1938-39, in full uniform. It was our pleasure to journey with Sir Knight Penick from Memphis to Miami, Florida, to the Triennial Conclave. He has a charming personality, coupled with a fine business background which we feel will result in a progressive year for Arkansas Templarism. His biographer depicts him as actively identified with the business and civic life of his city, a banker, and at present serving as a director in the Federal Reserve Bank, Little Rock Branch. He is a member of the York and Scottish Rite bodies of Masonry.

On roll call of the Grand Officers of the Grand Commandery we find the Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, the Eminent Grand Prelate and the Eminent Grand Standard Bearer absent. After prayer by the Acting Grand Prelate, the Grand Commander declared the Grand

Commandery duly convened. Following the announcement of committees and reading of telegrams of regret from absentees, an escort of Past Grand Commanders was formed and retired to officially present Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A. Following the introduction of the Grand Commander, in most cordially welcoming the Grand Master, stated that it was the first time in its history that the Grand Commandery of Arkansas had been honored by the presence of a Grand Master of Knights Templar.

Sir Knight Francis J. Scully, Right Eminent Grand Commander, then welcomed the Grand Master and the Grand High Priest of Arkansas; following this twenty-nine Grand Representatives near the Grand Commandery of Arkansas were presented and welcomed.

Then followed the Grand Commander's Address, wherein he set forth:

"I have tried in all my contacts with the Sir Knights in my visitations to the various Commanderies to build up enthusiasm in Commandery work, and to point out the values of the Christian principles on which our Order is founded, not only in their contacts with other Sir Knights, but in their spiritual life as well. Ours is a Christian Order, founded on the great principles of the Christian Religion. The ideals of Templary are just as lofty today as when the Order first came into being, and are just as needed in the world today to bring about an awakening of the spiritual consciousness of men of all nations. Our Order is one of service. Let every Sir Knight be an example to his fellow man."

This is a stirring declaration and admonition, and altogether timely. The world needs Christian Knighthood more now than ever. It is one of the closest allies the Church has today, and can be the most effective in bringing men to the consciousness of the need of those principles laid down by our Lord in that wonderful sermon on the mount. Did these principles dominate the hearts of all men today this world would be at peace instead of preparing for war.

Six dispensations were issued to cover routine requests. The Grand Commander visited nine Commanderies. During the year it was found desirable to arrest the Charters of three dormant Commanderies. Two neighboring Commanderies were consolidated, and the consolidation of two others recommended. The Grand Commander finds the condition of most of the other Commanderies satisfactory, some in need of assistance, and above all, a little more enthusiastic leadership from their officers.

He reports that the operation of the Educational Foundation has been most satisfactory. Scanning the report I find, \$3,622.53, principal collected, and \$1,127.94 in interest collected. Amount loaned to twelve students during the year is \$2,250.00. Loans now outstanding, December 31, 1937, \$20,209.74. Total loans made to December 31, 1937, \$42,530.00. I quote now from the Grand Commander's Address concerning the use of the fund:

"It is important that every member of every constituent Commandery should understand the principles involved in this fund. It is primarily intended to help young men and young women finish their education, who must have had two years of college work in order to be eligible, and must have an earnest desire to fit themselves for useful work. A distinct obligation rests upon the Sir Knight who recommends or reports on an application for a loan."

Following the reports of the various committees the Grand Master delivered an interesting and very instructive address, stressing renewed interest, and better leadership and proficiency in the work among the officers of the various Commanderies. The address was not reported in the Proceedings, but it was an inspiration to all who heard it.

The Committee on Necrology paid loving tribute to the memory of Sir Knight, Robert Trezevant Hynson, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, who died on October 16, 1937. It was our good fortune to count him as a friend. He was a resident of Memphis during the early 1920's.

Since the adjournment of the Grand Commandery another misfortune has befallen it, in the passing of that noble and efficient Sir Knight, Arthur C. Becker, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, and at the time of his death, Eminent Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery. To know him was to love him. This writer's contacts with this Knightly gentleman have been most close and cordial. We deeply mourn their passing. We are conscious that, as true Knights their passing was the entry into the beautiful dawn of a glorious hereafter to which we press forward.

#### REVIEW

There is no Review.

SIR KNIGHT JAMES H. PENICK,  
Little Rock, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT WOODLIEF A. THOMAS,  
Little Rock, Acting Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Little Rock, May 16, 1939.

#### CALIFORNIA

This Grand Commandery met in its Eightieth Annual Conclave at Santa Monica, on April 18, 1938, with all Grand officers present. Among the distinguished visitors received with the honors due their rank were, Sir Knight Frank M. Sprague, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of North Dakota, and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, and our good friend Sir Knight Walter L. Stockwell, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, and Right Eminent Grand Recorder, Grand Commandery of North Dakota.

Before getting into the actual proceedings we pause to congratulate California Sir Knights on their presentation of their beloved Grand Commander by a life-like steel engraving of Sir Knight Oakley K. Morton as the frontispiece of their Proceedings. Of course he is in full uniform, the only fitting way to present a Grand Commander to posterity in a record of Templar Proceedings.

Twenty-nine Grand Representatives near the Grand Commandery of California of sister Jurisdictions answered roll call and were duly made welcome by the Grand Commander. Every Commandery of the State was represented. By either coincidence or arrangement, this Conclave convened on Easter Monday. This was taken advantage of by the Grand Commandery to participate in a magnificent Easter Service conducted by the Grand Commandery in beautiful Santa Monica. But let the Grand Commander tell the story:

"I feel that there was a rededication by all Sir Knights to the ideals of this great Christian Order. We are thus concluding this Templar year with a resurrection of united service to the Supreme Grand Master and mankind. Today join with me in feeling that the brilliant rays of the rising sun, shedding luster upon the banner of our Order, will animate and encourage all valiant and magnanimous Knights, and dismay and confound their enemies. Contemplating our motto, 'IN HOC SIGNO VINCES,' we realize in that sign alone can our fellow man and civilization succeed and prosper.

"Fortunate are we to live in the environment of this great State which impresses one with the permanency of nature and worthwhile ideals. We view the majestic Pacific ocean, and our mountain skyline of snow covered Sierras speaks nature's supremacy with lofty Mt. Whitney and beautiful Mt. Shasta. Then we contemplate the giant Sequoias—the oldest living things on earth—good sized trees when our Saviour was born in Bethlehem, and we realize that only God can make such trees. Worthwhile things do not just happen—this Order of Christian Knighthood was brought forth for a continuing purpose.

"In this life there is a definite challenge and desire to reach a more perfect result, more ideal state of existence. Dictators may endeavor to crush the Christian religion, endeavor to abolish ideals, endeavor to consider life itself only as a chemical reaction, but truth crushed to earth will rise again, and the spark of life will continue to come from God. 'What the Lord giveth He taketh away,' and as empires rise and fall the Christian religion will continue and also this Order, founded upon the practice of Christian virtues. Men interested in the better things of life and who appreciate true human values seek membership in Masonry and this Order, and value their association with the principles exemplified by our rituals. It is the purpose and intention of Templars to be high minded gentlemen. I, therefore, greet you and welcome you to this Annual Conclave as representatives of the 11,000 splendid Sir Knights of California."

The official visitations of the Grand Commander were numerous and were most heartily received by the many Commanderies visited, most of them being events in Templar experience on the part of the Sir Knights receiving the Right Eminent Grand visitor. The reception accorded him

by his own Commandery was magnificent, and must have made a deep impression on the entire community as the parade in his honor passed through the principal streets, with 600 Knights Templar in full uniform.

The Grand Commander reports the Educational Foundation is being well administered. The executive Secretary and the Past Grand Commanders on the Board have followed a constructive program. Under the head, "Condition of the Order," the Grand Commander reports:

"Each of the 65 Commanderies of California is now on a sound financial foundation. Those certain whose welfare was jeopardized by heavy financial liabilities have successfully settled same and been relieved of this millstone. \* \* \* Informative data also disclosed a splendid observance of required Commandery activities. I am, therefore, happy to report to you that it is my feeling that each Commandery of California has experienced a renewed interest in Commandery life. \* \* \* Best of all is the information that each Commandery has conferred the Orders."

The Grand Commander strongly recommends that copies of the Grand Encampment Review be secured for the use of Constituent Commanderies. Concerning the uniform he says:

"Disturbing reports have come to me of Commanderies conferring the Orders upon candidates without requiring that they secure the uniform. \* \* \* I therefore, seriously advise every Eminent Commander require strict observance of this regulation in connection with the conferring of the Orders."

The observance was a most elaborate undertaking, in that the Grand Commander greeted the Sir Knights of California in a radio broadcast uniting the 65 Commanderies. It was known as "California's Knights Templar Christmas Tie." On this experience the Grand Commander says:

"Christmas brings many joys, but the thrill of being able to express Christmas Best Wishes to the 11,000 Sir Knights of our great State will remain with me as one of the happy occasions of my year. \* \* \* Second, the Knights Templar throughout the State stood and repeated in unison with me The Templar Declaration. Third, more Knights Templar attended Christmas Observances in their local Commanderies than ever before, and thousands who were isolated, traveling, or confined to their homes, participated in the Observance. Commencing at noon, long distance telephone calls and telegrams of congratulations and Christmas Greetings poured in from all over the State."

The experience of California in Christmas Observance sets a new record in Templar experience. Outstanding in its character and accomplishment. Closing his report the Grand Commander admonishes:

"Today the individual must assume the real responsibilities of citizenship. Even in a Christian Country, that still has faith that right will make might, you cannot have government of the people, by the people and for the people, unless each citizen conscientiously feels his obligation to 'dispense justice, reward merit, encourage truth and diffuse the sublime principles of universal benevolence.' America calls for an awakening to the principles of this Order of Christian Knighthood. \* \* \* Together then we carry on for God, for Country and our Brother Man. The spirit of America is in your keeping."

Many dispensations were granted for varied purposes. Most were issued to receive and ballot on petitions in less than statutory time, others to appear in full uniform on the occasions of installation of officers of the Order of Amaranth, Order of the Eastern Star, Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, Order of the Beauchant, Fraternal visits to Lodges, and one to confer the Order of the Red Cross in the open air, in a secluded canyon, properly guarded. Careful scrutiny failed to discover a dispensation to visit a Chapter of De Molay or attend installation of its officers. While some Jurisdictions do not cover so much territory in uniform, yet we can see no rational objection, and feel it is proper publicity, if parading in uniform in public is regarded as orthodox, as it is by all Grand Jurisdictions in the United States. There is no doubt in this writer's mind but that many good men are thereby attracted to the Order, thereby to an atmosphere, which after the church, there is none better, outside a happy home.

A net loss of 291 is reported. From the report of the Committee on Educational Foundation we find student borrowers paid on principal during the year, \$12,227.00 paid on interest, \$2,900.00, while loans to students were \$2,700.00. This might indicate that but 14 students received loans during the year. This appears unusually low for California. Doubtless students there are availing themselves of the Government's loan facilities. The report does not reflect the number of students helped during the Foundation's existence, nor the number of students to whom loans were made the past year. We regard this as desirable, and proper publicity.

The one thing lacking to make this a model for Proceedings is the inclusion of a review, preferably by the Grand Commandery, otherwise that of the Grand Encampment.

SIR KNIGHT AUGUSTUS KEMPKEY,  
San Francisco, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT THOMAS A. DAVIES,  
San Francisco, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Oakland, April 24, 1939.

### COLORADO

The Sixty-third Annual Conclave was convened in Denver, September 23, 1938. All Grand Officers present, Sir Knight W. Everett Gragg, Right Eminent Grand Commander, presiding. After prayer by the Eminent Grand Prelate, a constitutional number of representatives being present the Grand Commander declared the Conclave duly convened.

On referring to the Proceedings to ascertain the type of sturdy manhood selected by Colorado Templars as their leader we were disappointed to find both Grand Commander and Deputy Grand Commander presented in civilian garb. We suppose they will say it is "past practice" but we

can't help but feel it is "poor practice" to present a Grand Commander to the Templar world in other than a Templar uniform. Yet we hear of the difficulty experienced in selling the uniform to Sir Knights, and of getting them to wear it after they have it, and of getting them out to get into it. Happily most Grand Commanders of the Grand Encampment appear in the Proceedings to go down in history clothed in Templar uniform.

With vacancies in committees duly filled, and visitors announced the Grand Generalissimo retired with an escort and on return presented Sir Knight William Catron Gordon, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Missouri, Grand Standard Bearer of the Grand Encampment, and Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A. and other distinguished visitors, who were cordially welcomed by the Grand Commander.

And now to the Grand Commander's Address. We quote excerpts:

"The year 1937-38 finds our numbers diminished still further; our net loss this year being 115; the encouraging part being that the losses are a little less each year. This condition, in my opinion, can be corrected only when the general financial and commercial conditions of the country show a marked and steady improvement. In the early part of 1937 business had reached a hopeful stage, but a few months later, with distrust and disturbance in many countries the whole world again became 'jittery' and this is reflected in the social and economic life of every country. \* \* \* On December 4, 1937, a meeting was held at which every officer of the Grand Commandery and eleven Past Grand Commanders were present. This attendance indicates a keen interest in Colorado Templary by these Sir Knights. (Also good generalship on the part of the Grand Commander.) After dinner a general discussion was held relative to the condition of the Grand Commandery, and plans formulated for the coming year."

The Grand Commander proved himself a good visitant, in that he visited fifteen of the thirty-six Commanderies of the Jurisdiction. Some of the Commanderies were visited more than once.

"At each of these visitations, I was received and given the courtesies due a Grand Commander. In several of these Commanderies, the Orders were conferred and always in a most creditable manner."

From the Grand Commander's report on Christmas Observance we find that twelve of the thirty-six Commanderies report a total attendance of 350 Sir Knights, together with a goodly number of visitors. Approximately ten per cent of the reported membership 1938. The Easter Observance attracted some thirty-four per cent of the membership, thirteen Commanderies being represented in the report, totaling 1,160, of whom over 800 Sir Knights marched through Denver's streets to the Sunrise Service held in the City Auditorium, where thousands had assembled to view the spectacle of plumed Knights in uniform engaged in worship and praise of their Captain and Lord. Other thousands were turned away. Let us hope that those within and without the walls of the

Auditorium meditated on the meaning of that anniversary to the human race, and as they walked by the way resolved to enjoy a closer daily association with the Risen Lord, and the assurance He brought us of the mansions beyond and which we, through faith in Him, may one day occupy.

Among the few recommendations offered by the Grand Commander we find two of general interest. I quote:

"That, at regular intervals, entertainment be provided which will be of interest to the families and prospective candidates. That the Constituent Commanderies exercise extreme care in the selection of officers. Remember that an officer appointed to one of the socalled starting stations, will in all probability, in the due course of time, be your Eminent Commander."

Of the Educational Foundation the Grand Commander comments:

"The loans and funds are now in a most satisfactory status and I wish to commend these Sir Knights on this splendid work."

From the report of the Educational Foundation we find that during the year \$4,966.00 in principal and \$1,242.92 in interest has been collected. Thirty-three accounts have been paid in full. New loans have been made to 50 students during the year. Sixteen more applications are now in the hands of the Committee. During the year many letters of gratitude and appreciation have been received from student borrowers. The Committee has also contacted authorities of accredited colleges in Colorado apprising them of the availability of funds for worthy students desiring them.

Loving tribute to the memory of the dead, and comforting words to loved ones bereaved are found in the Report of the Committee on Necrology. Quote:

"To those near and dear, to families and friends, and to our fraters in other jurisdictions whose losses have been severe, the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Colorado, extends its sincere and deepest sympathy, commanding them to find succor from sorrow in the promise of the Risen Christ, 'He that liveth and believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.'"

#### REVIEW

There is no Review.

SIR KNIGHT LON MAURICE PHILBRICK,  
Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT CHARLES A. PATTON,  
Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Place and date for 1939 to be determined.

#### CONNECTICUT

The 1938 Proceedings of this One Hundred Eleven year old Grand Commandery is prefaced with an excellent portrait of Irville Augustus May in the full Templar uniform of the Grand Commandery. The countenance of this Sir Knight bespeaks the interesting biographical sketch immediately following the portrait. Born in Windsor, Mass., he graduated from Dalton High School in 1895. Following a business course in Springfield Sir Knight May entered upon an active business career. His social contacts were conducted on a high moral plane. He was made a Master Mason in February, 1916, since which time he has been an active participant in all Masonic fields of activity.

At roll call all Grand Officers were found to be present together with the constitutional number of the membership, and the Annual Conclave was convened at 9:00 a. m. May 3 in the Asylum of New Haven Commandery No. 2, New Haven. A long list of distinguished Templars from the neighboring Grand Jurisdictions, headed by the Most Eminent Grand Master and the Right Eminent Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Encampment were escorted into the Asylum and received in full ceremony. To this array should be added twenty-five representatives of other Grand Jurisdictions near the Grand Commandery of Connecticut creating a most colorful setting, and one to inspire the heart of all true Templars. The Grand Commander's address reflected a year of intense activity. Three dispensations were issued to Commanderies to appear in full uniform with banners to attend Receptions and Banquets. One dispensation requested to attend a Lodge Communication in full uniform for the purpose of conferring a degree was declined because:

"It does not seem to be a proper procedure to use the Templar uniform for Blue Lodge work. \* \* \* It is not my purpose to discourage the officers of any Commandery from taking part in the degree work \* \* \* or of showing as much interest as possible in their activities, that is indeed the spirit that is most desirable."

We commend his discretion.

Christmas appears to have been well observed, but we find no mention of Easter or Ascension observance. The Grand Inspector finds all the Commanderies doing fine tactical and Ritualistic work, with one exception. He says:

"I still maintain that only through the personal efforts on the part of the Commanders will the attendance on nights of inspection be increased."

The report of the Committee on Educational Foundation is in the form of a financial statement, conforming doubtless to the requirements of the Grand Encampment law governing. My analysis indicates that the Fund is being capably administered. Collections for the past year appear to have been good, although deferred assets indicate accrued interest due on student loans to be \$4,662.75, while current assets indicate that principal

outstanding is \$54,101.17. Further we discover an apparent surplus of some \$22,000.00.

The Proceedings do not show that the Grand Master made an address before the Conclave while in session.

#### REVIEW

There is no Review.

SIR KNIGHT OTTO B. ROBINSON,  
Willimantic, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT WILLIS N. BARBER,  
Meriden, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Willimantic, May 2, 1939.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

As we open the Proceedings of the District of Columbia, we are met by a very excellent portrait of the retiring Grand Commander, Sir Knight Maurice L. Brewton, in full Templar uniform. The biographical sketch which appears in connection with the portrait indicates an intense activity in all bodies of York Rite Masonry and also of the Order of the Eastern Star. Within forty years after birth he has attained the distinction of serving as Grand Commander and also as Grand Master of the Cryptic Rite. Doubtless other distinguished Masonic honors will follow in due season.

The Forty-third Annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery was convened in Washington on the evening of May 9, 1938, with all Grand Officers, except the Grand Prelate, in attendance. All Commanderies were well represented. Also answering roll call were thirty-two Grand Representatives of other Grand Jurisdictions near the Grand Commandery of the District of Columbia.

The Conclave was honored with the presence of Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment Knights Templar, who was conducted to the Asylum by an escort of Past Grand Commanders and received in ceremonial form. His address delivered at the close of the Conclave was well received. As it was not included in the Proceedings we are unable to quote from it. Distinguished visitors from Maryland, New York and Virginia were also received and welcomed.

From the Grand Commander's Address we glean much encouragement. Opening he says:

"Today conditions have changed and men everywhere are going about their daily tasks with less confidence and more doubt as to the ultimate result that will attend their efforts. They want to be optimistic, \* \* \* but, a changing and chaotic world seems to offer little incentive for the continuation of that intelligent effort which has ever characterized our people and which has ever heretofore brought its recompense. Not-

withstanding these things, \* \* \* let us remember that it is in times of stress that the true citizen and faithful Templar gives more freely of his ability and his devotion to his country and his Templar Order. \* \* \* It has been gratifying and encouraging during all the past year to note the interest of men of this stamp in the welfare and activities of our Commanderies."

Under Decisions and Dispensations he sums up by saying:

"No matter has been presented to me during the year which required a formal decision. The dispensations which I have granted have not been numerous. They related to interjurisdictional visits for the purpose of conferring the Orders, to special election of officers, and to the balloting upon petitions for the Orders within less than the statutory period."

Reading further we find that Christmas, Easter and Ascension Days were well observed, with the Easter Day service held in Arlington National Cemetery being attended by Sir Knights and friends of Templary from far and near. Of the event the Grand Commander says:

"Any words at my command are inadequate to describe the scene presented, but I shall long remember the devout attitude of all who participated, the impressive service and the reverence of the great throngs gathered to do honor to the lowly Nazarene whose teachings have wrought so marked and lasting a change in human relations."

The usual field day, a part of the annual program of this Grand Jurisdiction was not held. Weather conditions, (heat) not being conducive to a satisfactory turnout of men in uniform. Arrangements are to be made to hold this event at a time when weather conditions are more favorable to the comfort of men in uniform.

The Grand Commander and staff visited each of the six Commanderies of the jurisdiction during April and separately installed the officers of the Commanderies. The Commander-elect of each Commandery having in hand a certificate of proficiency issued by the Instructor-General of the Work, as provided by the Constitution of the Grand Commandery. An unusual situation appears in connection with the Annual Inspections, in that inspection for full form opening and tactics is held in the spring, while the ritualistic work inspection is not held until October. However steps are being considered to combine the two. This will undoubtedly materially increase the interest of the Sir Knights of the jurisdiction.

The schools of instruction held during the Templar year under direction of Sir Knight Harry B. Reed, Past Eminent Commander has proven of great help to the Commanderies and have also helped increase the attendance.

The Grand Commander speaks glowingly of the Triennial at Miami Florida, July, 1937:

"Extensive preparations for the entertainment of those in attendance had been made by the Fraters of Florida, and the many functions in which we were privileged to participate were thoroughly enjoyable, well planned, and will be long remembered."

This Grand Commandery also participated, with other Masonic Bodies, as sponsored by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, in the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the formation of the Constitution of the United States, and which was held on September 16, 1937, in Constitution Hall. Of this the Grand Commander says:

"It was an outstanding event, unequalled by anything our jurisdiction has seen in years and thoroughly in keeping with the dignity and prestige of Freemasonry."

Of the Condition of the Order the Grand Commander feels optimistic, saying:

"Although we have not reached the point where we report a net gain in membership, gratifying progress has been made during the past year. A summary of the returns of the several Commanderies shows a net loss of 29 for the year, a material reduction from the loss of 81 reported a year ago."

He recommends that an allowance be made the Grand Commander to take care of expenses of interjurisdictional visits heretofore borne by the Grand Commander, and suggests that \$100.00 be set aside for the purpose. However we do not find the Finance Committee took the item seriously as it does not appear in the 1938-1939 budget. But \$200.00 for his Past Grand Commander jewel does.

From the report of the Inspector-General, we conclude the Commanderies of the District are well uniformed. And from the report of the Instructor-General the Ritualistic work is being well done. This in some measure accounts for the great reduction in losses reflected in the reports of the jurisdiction in the past few years. Have them get a uniform, and then get them to work under enthusiastic leadership, and Templary will be an asset to both the church and the community in which it is stationed. Too its effect upon the citizenry will be such as to create a desire to participate in Templary.

The Committee on Educational Foundation submitted its report from which we quote in part:

"Notwithstanding the fact that more than usual publicity within the Masonic Fraternity of our jurisdiction has been given to the existence of the Foundation and that it has again been brought to the attention of the officials of our educational institutions, the number of applications for loans has increased but slightly during the year. We are confirmed in our belief, heretofore expressed, that the activities of the National Youth Administration of the Federal Government are responsible for this condition. Reliable information shows that increased allotments for aid to students in the District of Columbia have been made by this organization and, so long as its funds are available without the necessity for repayment of the amounts advanced, it is not probable that students in need of financial assistance to complete their education will seek such aid from our Foundation. The recent message submitted to Congress by the President of the United States, contained a recommendation for an appropriation of \$75,000,000 for the work of the National Youth Administration."

More food for thought!

We find, too, "a number of delinquent loans have been placed in

the hands of an attorney for collection." The balance sheet shows, Student loans outstanding, \$5,450.40, and funds invested, \$25,190.10. More to digest! One cannot blame the students for finding the easy way. It would appear that the District should become a Mecca for penniless students.

We note that a committee appointed to revise Asylum Tactics reported and that their report was received and ordered printed and funds to cover costs provided.

The Review is by veteran James A. West, and as usual written in masterly manner, holding in interest.

#### REVIEW

On the Condition of the Order he makes the statement:

"The number of petitions received for the Orders has continued to increase. \* \* \* There is evidence on every hand that fear of the future has been left behind, and that a steady climb is under way to the heights of former prosperity. The quality of leadership, about which there has been so much critical comment during the past few years, seems to have improved, and no doubt part of this improvement has come about because incoming Commanders, cognizant of the dismal story of past recent years, and familiar with the success of former years, have realized they were 'on the spot' so to speak, and have earnestly and sincerely gone about the discharge of their duties with a firm determination to improve conditions."

His statistical table is both interesting and revealing. He believes that the man really interested in Templary will provide himself with a uniform without compulsion, and that the others having a uniform by compulsion will let it become food for moths. A commandery must have revenue to operate he opines, and it takes dues paying members with or without uniforms to do this. So! With an active interest in Templary uniforms will come.

The true objective of Templary in the United States should be quality, rather than quantity. All too many of our newly created Sir Knights are immediately absorbed in a desert dust or sand storm, and after getting the dust out of their eyes have almost forgotten the sacred vows and objectives of Templary. I speak as an eye witness, not as a theorist. Let us then devote our attention to interesting ourselves in our membership activities to the securing petitioners of sound Christian ideals, whose sole objective is the stabilizing of Christianity, and presenting it to our fellows in readily digestible form, practicable for use on the street and in our business experiences. This will count as a true and workable objective. The world today is crying out for it. We must learn to love our neighbor as ourselves. If it were not possible our Lord would not have advocated it.

SIR KNIGHT JAMES GRAHAM,  
Washington, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT J. CLAUDE KEIPER,  
Washington, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Washington, May 8, 1939.

## FLORIDA

The Forty-fourth Annual Conclave convened in Fort Myers, Wednesday, May 18, 1938, with all Grand Officers present except the Grand Generalissimo.

Sir Knight Major George H. Steel, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Indiana, was duly received as the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar, U. S. A.

Ranking Officers of the various York Rite Bodies were then received through the lines. Following this the Grand Representatives of the various other Templar Grand Jurisdictions of the United States near the Grand Commandery of Florida present were welcomed.

Reviewing the Grand Commander's Address, by Sir Knight William B. Greer, President, we learn:

"It has been a constant desire and effort to uphold the honor and dignity of this Grand Commandery, and to promote its best interests."

Speaking of matters financial he says:

"Under this heading I would like to call your attention to the condition of the funds of this Grand Commandery. No institution, fraternal, social, or governmental, is stronger than its finances. It therefore behooves us to take counsel looking to the strengthening of our financial status. \* \* \* The cause is not in the amount of the dues but in the interest of the frater."

He mentions his active interest in the handling the Fortieth Triennial Conclave, and says:

"I find that the time was well spent. From all reports in hand, it appears that all who attended had a wonderfully good time and the thousands present went home praising the good job done by the Florida fraters."

We heartily concur. While that 81 degree weather promised us failed to materialize yet we should not charge this to our hosts, since they did every thing possible for the mind to conceive to divert our thoughts from the temperature. Why! the deep sea fishing trip this writer made fully atoned for the heat. We caught two miniature marine gardens, one sand eel and one red snapper (the captain had another name for it), but that's what it looked like.

Eight decisions were called for and disposed of by reference to the Statutes of the Grand Encampment, and By-Laws of the Grand Commandery. Three routine dispensations were issued. One to change date of holding a Stated Conclave, provided by the Commandery's by-laws, was refused. Speaking of the membership the Grand Commander considering the net loss of 51 during the year says:

"Our membership losses in recent years have been heavy from many causes. Some have dropped out because they were not spiritually inclined to the teachings of Templary; others have fallen by the wayside because of financial burdens; but the great majority have been lost from lack of

interest. When we review the ordinary workings of a Commandery, the surprise is that we still have a sufficient number to function."

The reader knows from his own experience what happens. On time or late, the Commandery is opened in "Short Form." Minutes are read, committees are called on for reports. No one having performed any Templar duties, there is nothing to report. The Recorder reads a few bills to be paid. He reports no petitions received, then finding nothing else to come before the Conclave it is closed. Who can blame the average Sir Knight for staying away. What the average Commandery needs is a live leader who will keep an active contact with his members, provide a program of an interesting character, either for the Conclave or to follow it immediately. Too, he will have the faculty of keeping a day to day contact with the sick or unfortunate ones and by some method do the thing necessary or have it done, to bring sunshine into their life.

Continuing the Grand Commander says:

"Outside of our Educational Foundation, we are doing nothing on the human service side to justify our existence. Whenever we begin in our own lives and actions to show ourselves worthy of our professions, then we shall see the losses by N. P. D. route at an end and we shall further find our asylums crowded with the kind of material that builds great societies."

Christmas was observed by only 13 of the 31 Commanderies and Easter less than Christmas. This was given serious thought by Grand Commander Greer. He too realizes that as a Christian Order we must lay more emphasis on the observances of our Lord's experience here on earth. We find too that five rituals of a defunct Commandery cannot be located, therefore fifty dollars must be sent to the Grand Encampment to square the record. On the surface it looks as though some one in closing out the affairs of the defunct Commandery failed to function fully, promptly. Under the caption, "Memorials," we glean this concise tribute paid the memory of their Junior Past Grand Commander, Robert H. Brown:

"To know him was to love him. We mourn his passing, deplore his loss, cherish his memory and are encouraged to endeavor to profit by the splendid example of service, loyalty, friendship and patriotism that he has left for all of us."

*"Life's labor done;  
Life's blessings all enjoyed;  
Serenely to their final rest they passed  
While the soft memory of their virtues  
Yet linger, like twilight hues,  
When the bright sun is set."*

The proposal to adopt an entirely white uniform, including white socks and shoes, was carefully considered by the Grand Commandery, but laid over.

The Finance Committee found the balance on hand in the general fund to be \$41.00. This furnished food for thought, and resulted in the Committee recommending that the per capita tax be increased fifty cents.

The question of the uniform still haunts the Conclave as it does many other jurisdictions. There is but one solution, that is obey the law. The sooner this is done the better off all of Templary will be. We do not want a membership that will not find pleasure in appearing in our dignified uniform. A close check of events subsequent to knighting will usually furnish the answer. So let's stay by the law, for better or worse. We will win.

A proposal to change the date of the Annual Conclave to a time not connected with the time of the other York Rite Bodies annual meetings did not find favor with the Grand Commandery.

#### REVIEW

There is no Review.

SIR KNIGHT JOSEPH BORMAN,  
Palm Beach, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT CARY B. FISH,  
Sarasota, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Jacksonville, May 17, 1939.

#### GEORGIA

Named after George II, of England, and first settled by whites in 1733 at Savannah, by James Oglethorpe, of England. Later the settlement had accessions from England of Methodists under stress of persecution in the British Isles. In 1777 the first State Constitution was adopted. Its Charter as a Grand Commandery is dated 1860. It has given one Grand Master to the Grand Encampment, the late James Kyle Orr, of whose passing on Sunday, September 18, 1938, we have just been advised (September 24, 1938), and whose name will be forever linked with the organization of the Educational Foundation, a blessed memory to many a young person, who by aid of this fund was enabled to prepare as a useful asset to society.

Presiding Grand Commander, Sir Knight Frank C. Jones, is presented in the Proceedings in full uniform and so gives us proper inspiration and impetus to proceed with the Review. He comes of a pioneer lineage of Georgia, endowed with all its aspirations, a truly Christian Knight.

The Seventy-seventh Annual Conclave was convened in Fitzgerald, May 4. Following a parade and Divine Service held at the Central Methodist Church, the Grand Commandery was convened at 2:30 p. m. in Wednesday, following the luncheon at the American Legion Home, in the Asylum of Gethsemane Commandery No. 20, where after prayer the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Sir Knight Robert L. Strong, Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Commandery

of Knights Templar of Alabama, was received with the honors accorded his rank and escorted to a seat in the East. Telegrams of regret were then despatched to absent Past Grand Commanders, and to Most Eminent Past Grand Master, Sir Knight Joseph Kyle Orr.

Shortly a motion to proceed with the election of the officers for the ensuing year prevailed, and

"The Right Eminent Commander now requested the Grand Recorder to cast the ballot for a Sir Knight to fill each office of the Grand Commandery down to the Warder, for the ensuing Templar year. The Grand Recorder accordingly complied. \* \* \* R. L. Wyly Past Grand Commander of Savannah, and of Palestine Commandery asked the privilege of casting the ballot for the Grand Recorder. This being granted, he moved that the present Grand Recorder be elected by a rising vote. This was duly adopted, by everyone standing and applauding at the same time. The Grand Recorder then proceeded to elect the other officers, down to the Warder. That officer to be elected tomorrow morning, the first business after the report of the Credentials Committee."

Such is the Georgia way! And so the Conclave stood adjourned until the morrow.

That evening at the scheduled banquet at the American Legion Home occasion was taken to present to Grand Commander Jones, out-going, "a lovely sterling silver service" a token of the love and esteem in which he was held by his fraters, he in turn after gratefully accepting it presented it to his wife, whom he declared had made possible any service he might have given to the Knights of the State. Following the banquet a memorial service was held at the Central Methodist Church for the Sir Knights who had died during the year. This was a most fitting action, truly Knightly, and might well be followed by other jurisdictions at their Annual Conclaves.

Thursday morning the Conclave resumed, and the Grand Warder was duly elected. The excitement of election over, the Grand Commander then presented his address, in which he stated:

"If anything at all has been accomplished during this Templar year, all the credit is due to Him who watcheth over us at all times, in whom I place my trust and to whom I look for guidance, coupled with the efforts put forth by my beloved fraters.

"I would be ungrateful if I did not acknowledge my appreciation of the services of our faithful Grand Recorder. \* \* \* To our distinguished visitors, a real old-fashioned Georgia welcome is extended. \* \* \* It is my privilege to say that all Recorders and Treasurers are bonded in accordance with our statutes."

The Grand Commander reported the surrender of three Charters, and the members thereof who were found to be in good standing were given demits. He also reports that Georgia was well represented at the Triennial Conclave at Miami. He refers to the devotional services of that Conclave in the Bay Front Amphitheater as:

"A tremendously heart-gripping ceremonial. The mighty crowd, the reverent air, the inspiring music, the hymns, and above all the wonderful sermon delivered by the Grand Prelate, made a deep impression on every participant."

To this your Reviewer chants an Amen! He was there and likewise inspired and edified.

On Christmas observance the Grand Commander records his disappointment, that of the twenty-nine Commanderies of the State but ten observed that day. While the Grand Commander circularized the Sir Knights concerning the observance of Easter, I find no report or record of its actual observance. Watchman what o' the night? Why so neglectful of our high duty as Templars?

The Grand Commander issued twelve dispensations, eleven of them for routine matters, one permitting a Commandery to hold its Stated Conclave ahead of time on account of Labor Day.

The Grand Commander visited twenty-three of the Commanderies and expects at some time in the future to visit the other six just to show them he has not forgotten them. On Condition of the Order, he reports the record shows a considerable increase in petitions, but on the other hand deaths, demits and suspensions have taken heavy toll. He says that in 1928 they had a membership of 7,816 as against 2,691 at present. He asks what is the cause? He admits he does not know. Let us examine ourselves and find the cause. Further he says:

"I am constrained to believe that the loss would be greater if the rolls were purged of those members who through negligence or indifference have allowed themselves to become suspended in Lodge or Chapter."

From the report of the Committee on Educational Foundation we find that forty new loans were made for the year. Students repaid on principal during the year, \$13,510.46; on interest, \$5,432.78. Notes charged off, \$1,307.87. Student loans now outstanding total \$66,984.88. Cash on hand, \$10,333.17. Thus the account is active and well supervised.

Concluding, the Committee reports:

"You will note that again this year the number and amount of loans are somewhat smaller than the average for the past ten years. This is due to two causes: first the National Youth Administration of the Federal Government is still making loans; second, we have learned by experience that if we hope to make satisfactory collections we must select our risks most carefully. To prove this is a wise procedure, we proudly call your attention to the fact that every graduate of 1937 has made satisfactory payments, and but two are behind."

#### REVIEW

There is no Review.

SIR KNIGHT JAMES C. NEWTON,  
Jackson, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT CHARLES S. WOOD,  
Savannah, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Gainesville, May 10-11, 1939.

#### IDAHO

Let me first introduce the fine looking Sir Knight in uniform, and wearing the jewel of Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Idaho, and convening the Thirty-fifth Annual Conclave on May 19 at Boise. He is Sir Knight Walter H. Bristol. We now pass to page three. Here you again find an outstanding Sir Knight now wearing the jewel of the Grand Commandery of Idaho, and who adjourned the Thirty-fifth Annual Conclave at Boise on May 20. His name is John A. Johnson, the incoming Right Eminent Grand Commander. Having introduced you to both the present and the future we will enter the Conclave.

We find Sir Knight Walter H. Bristol, Right Eminent Grand Commander, with full staff of officers present and the roll call proceeding, which finds thirteen of the fifteen Commanderies represented. Recess was declared in order to allow the Grand Commander to retire to Hotel Boise, to receive the formal welcome and escort to the Masonic Temple, which reminds me that once upon a time, as ticket agent for a railroad, a passenger approached the ticket window to purchase a ticket to a certain point on the line. Being anxious to increase the station's earnings I asked him if I might not sell him a round trip ticket. Why said he, should I buy a round trip? Ain't I already here? However, the escort proved successful and the Grand Commandery was reconvened.

The Committee on Visitors announced that Sir Knight Herbert L. Toney, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Oregon, and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., was in waiting. An escort of Past Grand Commanders was immediately formed, retired, and returning presented Sir Knight Toney at the foot of the Lines, where he was warmly welcomed by the Grand Commander and ushered to a seat of honor in the East. On roll call twenty-four Grand Representatives were found to be present. They were formally presented and cordially welcomed by the Grand Commander.

The Grand Commander reports having visited all the Commanderies. He was joined in this by the Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. Joint meetings were held, "bringing the Chapter and Commandery closer together with a common interest, and also making a large saving in expense."

Among the reports at Miami the Most Eminent Grand Master in his report to the Grand Encampment Conclave rendered the following decision, reports the Grand Commander.

Question: Can the officers of a Commandery appear at a Blue Lodge public function with Chapter members, and put on a drill, forming a Triangle, receiving the Grand Commander through the lines, etc.?

Answer: The Statutes of the Grand Encampment provide as follows: Section 215. The determination of what is a proper occasion for a Commandery to appear in public belongs to the Grand Master as to subordinate Commanderies, and to the Grand Commander as to Constituent Commanderies. Nevertheless, since you ask my opinion, permit me to say that I consider it entirely proper for a Grand Commander to grant dispensation for a Commandery to appear in uniform at a Blue Lodge public function, to put on a drill, including the movements mentioned in your letter and other strictly tactical evolutions.

Following out the thought of this decision in almost every joint meeting over the State, a dispensation was granted to the Commandery to appear in uniform in public. This proved especially interesting to the Chapter Masons, and was a strong incentive for them to join the Commandery. It was added incentive to the Knights Templar by giving them a chance to appear in public which naturally stimulated their desire to do better work. If York Rite Masonry is to grow in Idaho, I believe a determined effort should be made by the Grand Commander and Grand High Priest to visit the different Chapters and Commanderies over the State in the Fall. This makes two occasions during the year in which the Sir Knights need to appear in full uniform with a full form opening—one, the visit of the Grand Commander in the Fall, and the inspection in the spring furnishes the second occasion.

Interesting side-light, it required 4,670 miles of auto travel to visit all the Commanderies in the State. An interesting age survey is found in the Grand Commander's report. It is presented by Commanderies, then in the aggregate. By Commanderies the average age ranges from 51.1 to 57.0.

The summary for the State is as follows: 7.6% are between thirty and forty years of age. 23.4% are between forty and fifty years of age. 69.0% are over fifty. Average age of Commandery members, 54.4%.

Continuing, the Grand Commander says:

"It seems to me that this reveals the fact that serious thought must be given to obtaining future material for both membership and office, as the 69.0% over fifty years of age have only a normal expectancy of ten years according to actuary tables. York Masonry is faced with an entirely different situation than has arisen in the past. When the World War began, most of our young men were sent over seas, and when they returned formed an organization of their own, which was perfectly correct and proper, but the average man has only a limited amount of time that can be devoted to fraternal organizations; consequently, the war veterans had little time for Masonry, and new material for our Order became very scarce. \* \* \* The consequence is that we have an age break in our membership in which almost two decades have passed without a normal gain in membership \* \* \* and unless the older men with an average age of sixty years, as shown \* \* \* make a real effort to fraternize with and teach the young men, I fear there will be a serious tendency for the younger Knights Templar to become discouraged with the Order."

The record does not indicate that Christmas was observed by the Commanderies of the Jurisdiction. Of Easter the report reads:

"Easter services were well attended by all Commanderies in the State. In most cases the Sir Knights attended in a body in uniform."

On the Educational Foundation the Grand Commander reports:

"Progress that has been made during the year in the Educational Loan Foundation has been very encouraging. Delinquent accounts have been collected, and I wish to personally congratulate the members of the Educational Foundation Committee on the splendid results that they have shown in carrying forward this good work."

On Condition of the Order the Grand Commander feels that there has been a decided improvement in the condition of most of the Commanderies. Non-payment of dues has ceased to be a serious source of loss, but death is taking its steady toll. A net loss of twelve is reported.

From the report of the Committee on Educational Foundation we gather that from its beginning 370 loans have been made, 288 have been paid in full.

"While some jurisdictions have used part of their funds for investment, we have never made that mistake. \* \* \* The reports made to the Grand Encampment as of December, 1936, show that less than 50% of the total loans have been collected. Whereas, our percentage is 79.7%, and it seems evident that only two or three other states have a higher percentage of collections than Idaho. So far no note has been found uncollectible. 62 loans appear to have been made from May 1, 1937, to May 1, 1938. A remarkable record, doubtless surpassed by none, and equalled by few. Many letters from grateful students are submitted with the report."

Of the Triennial Conclave in Miami the report states:

"Perhaps in no Conclave in recent years has the Baldric Knight been treated with as much consideration (we concur heartily). There were daily deep sea fishing trips; beach barbecues; ocean bathing; sight-seeing trips to many points of interest; dancing and entertainment in Bay Front park; etc."

From the *Miami Herald* is quoted:

"It has been an eventful week for Miami. This city has entertained other great conventions before this, but not such gatherings as the one that has just closed its business and adjourned for another three years. In appearance and in actions the men who compose the great body of the Grand Encampment, and those Templars who came to wait upon the grand body were exceptional citizens of our country. They came from the broad reaches of the nation, from every State in the Union, from the far off territories of the United States and from Canada! They came here for the purpose of extending the influence of the great organization to which they belong, to exemplify in some measure the principles and precepts of Templarism. And during their visit their invariable conduct showed that they were controlled by the dignity and the purposes of the organization with which they are connected. Not an unseemly act, not a rough word, not a complaint was heard from any of the Sir Knights or

the estimable ladies who accompanied them. They always and invariably showed the Knightly courtesy for which their ancient Order is noted."

These are indeed kind words. They are also true words.

#### REVIEW

There is no review, but the roster of the Idaho membership is part of the book. Our views on rosters appear in our review of Montana. Probably with less expense copies of the Official Review of the Grand Encampment might be incorporated with the proceedings to the edification, inspiration and information of the Sir Knight reading it. Two copies to each Commandery would afford the membership the opportunity, by circulation, to know what the world of Templary is doing, and how.

SIR KNIGHT JOHN A. JOHNSON,  
Twin Falls, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT DANIEL F. BANKS,  
Boise, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Wallace, May 18-19, 1939.

#### ILLINOIS

Sir Knight Cedric Cook Howland greets us under a beautiful white, cloud-like plume, as we open the 1938 Proceedings of this Grand Commandery, over which he presided as its Grand Commander during the year which closed August 31, 1938. At the convening of the Grand Commandery all Grand Officers were present. Sixteen Past Grand Commanders reported present. After prayer by the Eminent Grand Prelate the Committee on Credentials made an advance report showing a constitutional quorum present.

The following distinguished visitors were introduced: Sir Knight Andrew D. Agnew, Most Eminent Past Grand Master, Grand Encampment; Sir Knight Allan B. Barr, Past Supreme Grand Master of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, and seventeen other great lights of sister Jurisdictions. The Grand Commandery was made duly welcome to Peoria by the Mayor of the City, Sir Knight David H. McClugage. All of this at the opening day of the Conclave, October 8.

Following the presentation of the Grand Representatives of various Grand Commanderies, Sir Knight Cedric Cook Howland, Right Eminent Grand Commander presented his address. In part he said:

"Nineteen years ago I was dubbed and created a Knight of the Valiant and Magnanimous Order of the Temple in this very Asylum. Little did I dream at that time that some time I might have the honor of being Grand Commander of this Grand Jurisdiction. \* \* \* A large number of dispensations were granted, many to appear in uniform in public, mostly for the purpose of furnishing escorts for other various Masonic Bodies. Personally I heartily approve of these escorts. They

are not only a help to Templary, but they convey to the world the fact that although we may be called separate organizations, yet we stand ready to walk and work side by side in an effort to spread the teachings of the Great Captain of our Salvation and the broad principles of Masonry. \* \* \* The usual invitations have been received from sister Jurisdictions as well as our own constituent Commanderies together with various other Masonic Bodies. As many as possible of these were accepted, although it was impossible for your Grand Commander to make them all. \* \* \* It was my privilege and pleasure to be able to attend the Annual Conclaves of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of \* \* \* Indiana at Lafayette, Missouri at Jefferson City, Iowa at Spirit Lake, Wisconsin at Manitowoc, and Minnesota at St. Paul. At each of these I was officially presented as your Grand Commander, and every courtesy extended me. Both Mrs. Howland and myself were very courteously entertained and the memory of these pleasant visits and the many kindnesses shown us will be long remembered."

Invitations to attend the Annual Conclave of Michigan could not be accepted because of my illness, says the Grand Commander, but Sir Knight Charles Hunt Toothe, Eminent Grand Generalissimo, was detailed to act as his representative, and was accorded every courtesy by Michigan's gracious hosts.

Christmas Day was generally observed throughout the Jurisdiction. Of Easter Services the Grand Commander says:

"Easter Sunday was observed generally throughout the Grand Jurisdiction. Outstanding by far of any throughout the State was the combined Easter Service held in Chicago with fifteen Commanderies participating. The Sir Knights formed a Triangle and Cross, parading down Michigan Avenue to Medinah Temple \* \* \* where appropriate religious services were held. Approximately 5,000 people assembled at this Mosque. The sight of these marching Knights was so inspiring that pictures of it were not only carried in the Chicago papers but were printed in one of the leading National publications."

At the Shrine Temple an inspiring addition to the observance was a Cross formed on the stage of Medinah Temple by two hundred eleven young lady members of Job's Daughters, under the direction of Mrs. Alma Bolton, Past Grand Guardian of their Order.

Another outstanding event was the observance of Ascension Day at Rockford on May 22, by a number of Commanderies of that section. Very fine pictures of these events are presented in the Proceedings. Illinois has a way of preserving in pictures in their proceedings all noteworthy events. To see these pictures is in itself an inspiration to any true Knight Templar.

Of the Educational Loan Foundation the Grand Commander speaks many words of praise for the efficient conduct of its affairs:

"Too much good cannot be said of the members of this committee. Each member has worked conscientiously, put forth an earnest endeavor not only to administer this fund as it was originally intended, to help students obtain an education, but have at the same time made a determined effort to protect and safeguard the funds of this Foundation.

They realized that their task would be much simpler if they had invested the funds of the Foundation in government bonds. \* \* \* However, they appreciated the fact that each Knight Templar in Illinois was assessed nine dollars for this fund, that the fund was to be used for a definite purpose, that of assisting by loans, worthy boys and girls, to secure an education, thereby enabling them to become more useful members of society and better citizens of this Republic. The members of this committee realized that this fund allocated to our Grand Commandery for administration was a trust fund and that our Grand Commandery assumes the legal status and obligation of trustees of this fund. They have carefully checked into the character and responsibility of each applicant, and though they have made a great many loans, they have insisted that each loan be secured by a note signed not only by the applicant but by two responsible co-signers. \* \* \* Every Knight Templar in our Grand Jurisdiction should be vitally interested in this Foundation. They should be very careful that they recommend only applicants whom they honestly feel will repay their loan as agreed. This fund was made possible by the Knights Templar of Illinois. It was their money. I am afraid that too many of them do not take sufficient interest in the administration of this fund."

On Condition of the Order, the Grand Commander admits it is food for serious thought. Of this he says:

"Some feel because we have lost a great many members that our Order is in a dangerous or precarious condition. In a way they are right. This year, though there have been many more Knights Templar created than in preceding years, we still have a net loss in membership in our Grand Jurisdiction, and from all indications, there will continue to be a net loss. For the past few years it has been advocated that the Commanderies be very lenient on suspensions for non-payment of dues. It appears that this has been overdone. \* \* \* The time must come when this will have to stop. I believe in the principles of Templary, of charity, and even financial help to a worthy Knight of this Order. Nevertheless, in my opinion there have been too many in the last five years who when even slight reverses hit them, were too willing to stop paying their dues. I draw one conclusion, and that is, during prosperous times our Constituent Commanderies worked too hard to build up a membership, paying too much attention to the number of Knights created and not enough attention to their worthiness and sincerity. \* \* \* True, there are many who value their membership and would willingly pay their dues if it were possible. To those I advise not only the remission of dues, but help in every way. But of those Sir Knights who could easily pay their dues with just a little self-denial and still refuse, I say that they are not true, sincere Templars and are not worthy of holding their membership in our Order by having their dues remitted year after year. \* \* \* It is my hope and my recommendation that many of our Commanderies consolidate, thus reducing their expenses and permitting the Commanderies to have money not only for their operating expenses, to keep their equipment and paraphernalia in the condition it should be, to have some funds for social purposes, and money to send their bands and drill teams to the Conclaves. Some of these Commanderies should voluntarily work out a program of consolidation. If they will not, it is my recommendation that the Grand Commandery of Illinois take some steps to encourage and if necessary force consolidation. \* \* \* You have just heard my opinion on the Condition of the Order."

The report shows a number of Commanderies behind in their per capita tax, and a number that owe assessments on the Educational Foun-

dation. The Grand Commander recommends definite action to clear this condition.

Many other items of the Grand Commander's address are worthy of inclusion, but space available forbids, but the closing lines of this forceful address must gain admission herein:

"In my opinion an address of a Grand Commander would be incomplete without some reference to the loyalty we owe our Government and our Country which it represents. In this present day when the world is torn apart with strife and greed, when the forces of Communism, Fascism, Nazism, Socialism and Radicalism are sacrificing religion, human lives and property for their own selfish ends, then it is time that we as Knights Templar took a more vital interest in the welfare and future of our country. There is so much to be said on this subject that any attempt I make seems feeble, so let me just again repeat these lines so dear to the hearts of every true American citizen: 'I pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.'"

From the timely address of Sir Knight William Moseley Brown, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, Virginia, and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master of Knights Templar we quote excerpts, regretting lack of space forbids more extended quoting. The speaker was in a most happy mood, appreciating to the utmost the cordial hospitality extended him while in Peoria, the forceful character of the Grand Commander's address and the excellent report submitted by the Committee on Educational Foundation. I quote from Sir Knight Brown's address:

"Our Most Eminent Grand Master says that Templary has certain ideals up to which it must live, and that is perfectly true and Templars have a certain responsibility in their respective communities and that is true, and every Commandery and every other Masonic Body must pay its bills as it goes along. That is certainly true, otherwise we certainly lose the respect of our associates in any community where they might happen to be located, but I tell you instead of spending our time in our conclaves and talking about money and talking about funds and talking about whether we can pay the assessments to the Grand Commandery or the Grand Encampment—those things have their place, but how much more important it is for us to sell Templary to Templars? And I want to say one other thing that if we are not sold on Templary ourselves we certainly cannot sell it to anybody else, and so I find an appalling amount of ignorance—an appalling amount of ignorance among the rank and file of our members. \* \* \* I congratulate you, Sir Knights, on the fine shape in which your Educational Foundation fund seems to be. \* \* \* We started out some fifteen years ago on this educational foundation matter without knowing much about it. We were inaugurating that which might be termed another noble experiment. We realize that education is the great American fetish. We all bow down at the Altar of education. I want to tell you with all my heart that education does not mean that a man can link one or two degrees after his name and be proclaimed as an educated man. I have seen many a fool college professor, and I have been one myself, so I can talk. Many an old college professor hooks on three or four degrees after his name, the head of a department in a college or university that had no more horse sense or common sense than

a jay bird, and that was all of the trouble in the past and that is all of the present now. We have too much theoretical education and too little practical education, and that was the reason that I suggested last evening that one of the great responsibilities that all Freemasons have today whether they are Templars or not, is the translation of the teachings and the principles, and the tenets of Freemasonry into terms of every day living. Who is going to do it if you and I do not? Why sometimes I like to say to a young person, 'You are going to college to get an education. Well, how will you know when you get it? What are the earmarks of an educated man or woman? Don't you believe that you may be in a position of the dog running after the train? What is he going to do with it after he gets it?' And that same thing repeats itself again and again and again. Why? Because every young person that is in possession of a college degree and a college diploma, a college education, thinks he is bound to make a success in life. I tell you it takes far more than that to make a success in this world in which we live. \* \* \* So I find a lot of boys and girls going to college that do not have the intellect for having even a college education. Those individuals ought to be sent to trade schools. They ought to be sent to schools that do not theorize quite as much as the colleges and universities do. They cannot take advantage of the liberal arts and the professional education that we give in our colleges and universities. I might suggest to our educational foundation committees in the various jurisdictions we might look into that and encourage many of our boys and girls to go to our schools for a year or two years where they can learn something useful, and then go out and make their place in the world at large."

I have quoted Doctor William Moseley Brown at length for the reason he has clearly developed a situation that for some years has needed setting forth in just the manner he has accomplished. In other words I have for some time been convinced our Foundation is aiding students into wrong life channels, in that we are sending young people to universities whose intellects are so set up that they are depriving the world of master plumbers, mechanics, carpenters, etc., by trying to make professional men and women of them. I feel sure there is an intelligent way out of this dilemma, and the saving of misfits in the social structure.

There are some pertinent remarks made by Sir Knight Allan B. Barr, Past Supreme Grand Master, Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, during his talk before the Grand Commandery. I quote:

"About running Commanderies which, of course, is running Preceptories in our country. We call them preceptories in our country, following out the line of old Templars who called the meeting place preceptories, and we have adhered to that as an English idea. It does not make any difference what you call it. There is nothing in the name. It is what they stand for and what you do at them, and what you do in the world that count. You have perhaps, in fact I know you have, a lot of trouble with that bugbear non-payment of dues. We have the same. I gave that quite a lot of thought and I only wish that the thing had been put through before. About two years ago, with the help of some of the members of my preceptory, I succeeded in putting through the idea of charging a fee sufficiently high in order that we could make a man a life member at the time he was consecrated and created a Knight. We have done that. We are operating under that system now. We charged a fee high enough. \* \* \* We took half of that fee and put it into a life membership fund; the other half goes, of course, for the current expenses

of the preceptory. The half of the fee which is taken and put into the life membership fund cannot be touched. The only money we can take out of there is the earning power or interest that may accrue from the investment in which that fund has been put, and we hope that in the near future we will have succeeded in building up such a life membership fund, should we have some lean years, \* \* \* the interest that would be coming in which would have accrued from that life membership fund, we could take care of the current and ordinary running expenses of the preceptory. I have been told by one or two, who could not see that the thing could be carried forward to a successful issue, it would be impossible to run the preceptory with charging so much money, such an expensive fee as we proposed during that year; that we would not get any candidates. \* \* \*

"I quite agree with him (Dr. Brown) that you should not cheapen Masonry by lowering dues and lowering the initiation fee. Keep it up, and I think you will find you will be more successful. I may say to you that the last few years we have had now an increase and we almost doubled our initiation fee, if you please; but the last two years we have had more candidates than we had during the four years previous to that or since this has gone to a vote, and incidentally a better class of candidates, and we have gotten away from that bugbear of non-payment of dues. We are getting better attendance at our preceptory meetings, because you know just as well as I know just the minute a man lets himself owe two or three years dues you do not see him at the preceptory or Commandery meetings, and eventually he has to be suspended, then you do not see him at all."

There is plenty of food for thought for thoughtful Templars in Sir Knight Barr's remarks. Their experience furnishes us with a clue that should receive the careful attention of all Grand Commanderies. It looks like a way out of the back dues problem, as well as a way to improve the status of Templary in attracting "a better class of candidates."

Many other interesting and pointed talks were made by notable Knights from other jurisdictions which I should like to have quoted here. Space forbids. With due respect to the quality and format of other Proceedings reaching me, it must be said that Illinois is "Tops" in that the volume is replete with a pictorial history of the parades and portraits of Grand Officers.

#### REVIEW

There is no Review.

SIR KNIGHT FRANK INGRAM HOOPER,  
River Forest, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT EDWARD ALBERT GLAD,  
Chicago, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Champaign, 1939, date to be selected.

## INDIANA

Back to the land of James Whitcomb Riley, who possessed the happy faculty of making sad hearts glad, and bad hearts better, by his homely phrasing, like this, "JUST TO BE GOOD."

*"Just to be good—  
This is enough—enough!  
O we who find sin's billows wild and rough,  
Do we not feel how more than any gold  
Would be the blameless life we led of old  
While yet our lips knew but a mother's kiss!  
Ah! though we miss  
All else but this,  
To be good is enough!"*

With this we open the Proceedings of the Eighty-fourth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Indiana, convened at Lafayette on May 11, 1938. In full keeping with the occasion we look into the eyes of an expressive countenance, about whose comely figure is draped the uniform of a Grand Commander, with the proper appurtenances thereto. Looking further we find him to be Sir Knight Fred N. Prass, Right Eminent Grand Commander. This gets us off to a good start. We find all Grand Officers present. Also present were Sir Knights Leonidas P. Newby, Most Eminent Past Grand Master and Adrian Hamersly, Right Eminent Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, together with fourteen other Past Grand Commanders of the Grand Commandery of Indiana. So with a roll call, and a prayer by the Eminent Grand Prelate, the Grand Commander declared the Grand Commandery duly convened. Many distinguished guests were then duly received. Among them we note Sir Knight Clyde A. Fulton, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, of Michigan, the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U. S. A., Sir Knight Mark Norris, and Sir Knight Andrew D. Agnew, Most Eminent Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment.

Lafayette is the seat of Purdue University, which has exercised a steadily increasing cultural influence in the community. Its scholastic attainments are well and favorably known from coast to coast. Its students come from many of the States of the Union.

The roll of Grand Representatives being called it was found that thirty-eight States were represented. The Grand Commander in opening his address paid eloquent tribute to the passing of Sir Knights Edward Jefferson Scoonover, Joseph George Ibach, and Harry Gessell Strickland, Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders of Indiana.

The Grand Commander issued twenty-one special dispensations for routine matters such as to receive and ballot on petitions at a Stated Conclave, hold special elections to fill vacancies, and to appear in public in Templar uniform on the occasion of a party and ball sponsored by the Commandery. Six were granted for the purpose of appearing in uniform

at DeMolay ceremonies, escorts to Worthy Grand Matron and Patron in their visits to local Chapters of the Order of Eastern Star, and one at the installation of the Worthy Patron of a local Chapter of the Order. Two requests for dispensations were denied, one being properly covered by Statute, therefore unnecessary, the other to hold a Stated Conclave at a time other than provided by the Commandery by-laws, which it was not within the power of the Grand Commander to change.

Three decisions were called for, one pertaining to the fitness of a petitioner for the Orders whose left arm had been severed near the shoulder. On this the Grand Commander advised that in his opinion, the candidate was physically unable to conform to the required ceremonies, therefore was not qualified to receive the Orders.

Under the caption of Hospitalers the Grand Commander reports:

"From long observation I have concluded that our Order has failed to supply any opportunity for service or activity on the part of those of its members who are not particularly interested in military maneuvers, or in the exemplification of the several Orders. We teach to our members beautiful lessons of charity and of service to our fellow men, but so far as I have been able to determine, have failed to put these teachings to practical application. \* \* \* I made some preliminary investigation of the practical operation of this organization known as Hospitalers. This convinced me that further consideration of this subject might result in the development of a service which would prove advantageous to the Grand Commandery and to our Constituent Commanderies."

Talking this over with his line officers he appointed a committee to investigate and report to the Annual Conclave. This Committee did make a most favorable and extended report. From it I quote briefly:

"In the ranks of Templary we find busy men, high minded, public-spirited, unselfish, ready and anxious to answer the call in defense of a worthy cause. These men may not be available for officers of the Commandery, for ritualistic work, or for drills, but undoubtedly could be drafted to serve a right ideal. What higher ideal can our Order have than to emulate the example of the ancient Templars by establishment of a Hospitaler Movement?"

"We therefore recommend that the incoming Grand Commander be directed to appoint, with the consent and approval of the Grand Commandery officers, a Committee of three to be known as the 'Hospitalers Committee of the Grand Commandery of Indiana,' one of whom shall be designated as Chairman, said committee to be granted full regulatory power, but with the following suggestions for organization and procedure."

Then follows suggestions for the organization of the Jurisdiction into ten divisions, similar to inspection groups. The activities outlined for 1938-39 are:

(1) Church Attendance: An annual church memorial service for deceased Knights with special attention to arrangements for the attendance of their relatives, also invite all Masons and the general public. Annual State-wide Hospitalers Sunday Church service with appropriate address

dealing with Templar history and the work of the Hospitalers Committee. The observance of the Christian Feast Days—Christmas, Easter, and Ascension Day—as outstanding affairs of the year's work.

(2) Social Service: Organization of women's auxiliaries within each Commandery \* \* \* the purpose of such being to co-operate with the Commandery in social events and in the personal needs of the community. Survey of the unemployed members of the Commandery and a co-operative effort to assist them in obtaining employment. Supplying Christmas baskets, toys for children and garments for the poor and needy of the community. Calls upon the sick and shut-ins, realizing the comfort a kindly word gives to those ill and in sorrow.

(3) Membership Activities: Stimulation of the interest of the new member by assigning some duty or activity to engage and retain his enthusiasm. These to cover contacts with Templars coming into the community from other points, also their families. Keeping other Commanderies posted concerning our own members in their community. Also to act as reclamation committee by contacting delinquents and those suspended through no fault of their own other than ability to pay their dues. To support militantly all opposition to un-Christian and un-Masonic movements. Such is the trestle board of the Hospitalers. Now we have arrived! A rose, by any other name would smell as sweet. This summarizes the spirit of true Templary brought out into the open.

I quote now from the address of the Grand Commander on the Condition of the Order:

"I am happy to report an apparent continuous improvement in Templar affairs within this jurisdiction. While the records still reveal net losses in membership in many of our Constituent Commanderies, yet they also disclose a decrease of losses, and this is extremely encouraging. It seems that this improved condition is due to two factors: (1) increasing activity among the Commanderies in their efforts to procure candidates, and (2) a more careful consideration of the situation surrounding members whose dues are delinquent, with an effort to retain the membership of those in arrears whenever possible."

General Order No. 1, issued by the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, as printed in the Indiana Proceedings is a masterpiece in the art of condensation of the Proceedings of the Triennial Conclave at Miami, July 1937.

From the report of the Committee on Educational Foundation we glean that fourteen student loans were made during the calendar year, that \$6,294.70 was received on principal of loans, and \$1,877.68 was received as interest on loans. We note further that \$300.00 was paid for collection services, and that \$22,470.08 was invested in Government Bonds.

The report of the Committee on Necrology is a touching, moving report, pregnant with beautiful sentiment, and causes the reader to reflect profoundly.

"No more lasting monument could be erected to honor our dead than to build the foundation which they have laid and to perpetuate their lofty ideals by diligent attention to the high purposes of Templar Masonry."

Sir Knight Clyde A. Fulton, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Michigan, and Hoosier born, and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master delivered an extended and interesting address to the Conclave. Opening he says:

"I am keenly conscious of the honor and the responsibility of representing our distinguished Grand Master on this occasion. No man in his public life or his private conduct more completely typifies the very essence of Christian Templarism than does that courteous gentleman who stands at the head of the Grand Encampment, and to appear as his personal representative on this occasion imposes upon me a genuine obligation. \* \* \* During the period that might be called the Golden Age of the twenties, so much work was being done in every Commandery that our Asylums were veritable bee-hives of activity and we found it almost impossible to crowd the absolutely essential social affairs into our busy calendars. For the past few years this has been entirely changed but have we stepped up our social program to fill the gaps in our Templar schedule? \* \* \* No man can be expected to retain interest in an organization which fails to indicate any interest in him. So I say to you that no opportunity should be overlooked that will assist in making the Templar Asylum a social center not only for the Knight himself, but for his family as well."

I wish I might extend more but space forbids.

## REVIEW

The Official Review of the Grand Encampment was incorporated with the Proceedings. A finished production from the pen of Sir Knight Charles C. Clark, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, of Iowa.

SIR KNIGHT CLYDE E. TITUS,  
Indianapolis, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT WILLIAM H. SWINTZ,  
Indianapolis, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Indianapolis, May 10, 1939.

## IOWA

Iowa, situated between the other two four letter states, presents its Sir Knight Hubert Schouten, Right Eminent Grand Commander in full Templar uniform, and his biographer says of him in part:

"Is a native son of Iowa, having been born in Keokuk, October 22, 1886. \* \* \* He has been actively interested in the affairs of his community, having served on the Public Library Board, Board of Directors of the Y. M. C. A., member of the School Board for twelve years, and President of the Board for three years. Past President of the Lions Club of Keokuk, and a member of the United Presbyterian Church."

He is a member of all the Masonic Bodies, both Rites, with the frills that usually accompany membership in Templar and Scottish Rite. Concluding, his biographer says:

"Of pleasing personality, an able speaker, of quiet and unassuming demeanor and of sterling integrity, he stands forth as a true Knight of the Cross and Christian gentleman."

Sir Knight Schouten presided at the Seventy-fifth Annual Conclave at Spirit Lake, July 5-8, inclusive. A constitutional number being found present the Grand Commandery was declared duly convened and was led in prayer by Sir Knight J. M. Marsh, Eminent Grand Prelate. Then followed in order the recognition of the Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders, reception of the Grand Representatives of sister Jurisdictions, Reception of Fifty-Year Members. Following the reading of the report of the Grand Recorder, which by the way shows a net loss of 228, or a reduction of 59% as compared with 1937 report, the Grand Warder announced that distinguished visitors were in waiting to be received. The lines were formed and Past Grand Commander Charles C. Clark presented Sir Knight William Catron Gordon, Right Eminent Grand Standard Bearer, and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., Walter E. Stover, Right Eminent Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Encampment, together with a galaxy of stars of the Templar firmament, all of whom were most cordially welcomed by the Grand Commander. This accomplished, the Grand Commander proceeded to read his Address. We take pleasure in quoting sections of this most interesting document, product of a mind dedicated to Masonry, and Templary in particular:

"These meetings serve many excellent purposes. They provide the opportunity for renewal of friendship, for interchange of ideas, for the taking of inventories of those abstract possessions which can neither be bought nor sold. In a world where events are moving so rapidly, we find difficulty in stopping long enough to determine our position, the distance we have traveled, or the direction in which we are tending. Our task today is to achieve perspective, for we are told: 'The young have aspirations which never come to pass; the old have recollections of things that never happened.' \* \* \* In the fraternalism and the worthy motives which are so strikingly exemplified in our noble Order is seen the coming trend of our modern civilization. \* \* \* Out of the shadows of the past the world has swept into a new and better day. Forms of oppression and industrial slavery which threatened at times to destroy our social fabric are rapidly being broken up. The all prevailing public conscience is awake, and the American Republic is moving forward to the fulfillment of its divinely appointed mission and destiny. Never in the history of the world has there been a time when it was such a glorious privilege to live. The present is supremely an age of expectancy, of anticipation and of prophecy. \* \* \* The progress of humanity is not marked by the resting places of inaction and self-satisfied contentment, but by the titanic struggles which the mind of man asserts its God-given heritage of supremacy over the human prejudice, ignorance, hatred and greed. To you knights of the modern world, is entrusted in no small measure the task of preserving the ideals of humanity, of spreading abroad the principles of sympathy, forbearance and brotherly love, and of disseminating the truth and ideals that have guided the race to every notable attainment through the ages of history. All men have their idea of life, some have their ideals. It is when we reach out towards a fuller realization of the latter that we become to some extent what we were intended to be, and the

higher and truer the ideal and the more perfect its realization, the grander and nobler will be the life attained."

On Condition of the Order, the Grand Commander says:

"The year just closed shows a very excellent condition. \* \* \* Much improvement is also shown in the matter of reinstatements, demits and suspensions. Unpaid dues show a decrease. \* \* \* This is a record of which each Knight Templar might well be proud. It has been accomplished only through the co-operation and industry of the officers and Sir Knights of the Commanderies in this jurisdiction. \* \* \* On returning from my visit to the Grand Commandery of Nebraska, I stopped at Lincoln, to see the magnificent capitol building of the State of Nebraska. Over the entrance of this beautiful building I read this inscription, 'THE SAFETY OF THE NATION DEPENDS ON THE WATCHFULNESS OF ITS CITIZENS.' As I read this inscription and felt its full significance, I thought how applicable it is to our great Order. So may we keep a watchful supervision for the safety of our Order, so that it may occupy the place in our lives it so rightly deserves. May we so live that our lives will convince those with whom we come in contact, of our sincerity of purpose, that they will know that we are true Knights Templar, enlisted under the banner of Jesus Christ, and that we are endeavoring, so far as humanly possible, to carry out His teachings and follow his example. Then will our activity increase, and with increased activity our numbers will increase."

The Grand Commander holds a most kind recollection of the Fortieth Triennial Conclave, Miami, July, 1937:

"One receives a new conception of the greatness of the Order of Knights Templar and cannot help but come away with a feeling of pride that he is a member of this organization. The Committees and Sir Knights of Florida are entitled to much praise and appreciation for their splendid hospitality."

In the matter of courtesies and visitations the Grand Commander comments favorably on the many invitations received, some of which it was impossible, because of conflicting dates, to accept, particularly outside the Jurisdiction, by reason of his desire to visit all the Commanderies of his own Jurisdiction, which by the way is just and proper, in that it was in performance of duty.

The State-wide Red Cross Day held at Des Moines, October 29, was indeed a Great Day, and for a great cause. This event was honored with the presence of Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment Knights Templar, U. S. A., also by heads of the other York Rite Bodies of Iowa. The Grand Commander personally attended the Annual Inspections of nine of the Iowa Commanderies.

On February 8, 1938, the Grand Commander attended in company with other Sir Knights the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, of Manitoba at Winnipeg, and while there attended the regular Assembly of King Edward Preceptory and Priory, No. 24. They were royally received by the Canadian fraters.

Making further reference to his visit to the 1938 Annual Conclave

of the Grand Commandery of Nebraska the Grand Commander lays special stress upon the forceful address of the Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Sir Knight Mark Norris before that Conclave. I quote :

"Sir Knight Norris addressed the Knights and Ladies at the Grand Commandery banquet and the Sir Knights in their Grand Commandery Session. On both occasions the Grand Master forcefully called the attention of those who were assembled to the need of an awakened Templary, and the necessity that we as Knights Templar follow the example of Him under whose banner we have enlisted."

Continuing the Grand Commander's address making reference to his attendance at York Rite Festivals says:

"This year has proven to me that such meetings should be fostered by more Commanderies over the State. They provide a splendid means of creating interest in Council, Chapter and Commandery. They also provide each of the York Rite Bodies an opportunity for an outstanding meeting and give the members something to work for. I would also recommend serious consideration be given towards having the Master Mason Lodge join with Chapter, Council and Commandery in all York Rite Festivals."

Numerous dispensations were granted to receive and ballot upon petitions at the same Stated Conclave. Three were granted to fill vacancies in the office of Commander occasioned by the Commander elect changing residence. One was granted to enable a Commandery to act as escort for installation of officers, Order of Eastern Star, and one for a Commandery to appear in public and act as escort for the Order of De-Molay.

Speaking of the Educational Foundation the Grand Commander says:

"Surely the purpose for which this Fund was established is a worthy one, and one of which every Knight Templar may well be proud. The very nature of our Organization demands that we should have 'some worthy objective wholly unselfish and co-operative by its nature.'

This Grand Commandery is one that observes the three great anniversaries of our Lord, Christmas, Easter and Ascension. All were specially stressed and well attended throughout the State. The closer we get to the observance of these momentous events, the deeper will become our sincerity in the success of our Order. If space permitted I should like to have included the daily program of the six-day Conclave which was held in Templar Park, opening Sunday evening, July 3, 1938, with religious service in the park pavilion. No other Grand Commandery in the Grand Encampment has so unique a program and so full of sustained interest.

From the report of the Educational Loan Fund Committee of which Sir Knight Charles C. Clark, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander is Chairman, we learn that 141 new loans were made during the year. That none of the funds of the Foundation are in stocks and bonds, but invested

in young men and young women to enable them to better prepare themselves for life's battle. So far in its loan experience Iowa has assisted 625 students to meet life effectively. 374 loans are now outstanding. During the past year \$12,830.41 on principal has been collected, and in interest \$2,933.28. Notes taken are well secured. We congratulate the Committee.

#### REVIEW

The Review is that of the Grand Encampment, and by that master reviewer, Sir Knight Charles C. Clark.

SIR KNIGHT EMMETT E. CAVANAUGH,  
Fort Dodge, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT CLINTON KASTNER,  
Boone, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Templar Park, Spirit Lake, Date to be selected later.

#### KANSAS

Here is the Reviewer back in the land of his Masonic birth and training. Many names appear in the reports of this volume whom the writer holds in high esteem. Opening this familiar volume we are greeted by Sir Knight Dwight M. Numbers, Right Eminent Grand Commander, who during the past year has rendered Templary a noble service. He is presented in full Templar uniform, therefore giving the full Templar atmosphere to the Proceedings.

The Sixty-ninth Annual Conclave was held in Emporia, May 10-11, with all Grand Officers present. Following the exemplification of a full form opening of a Commandery, the Grand Commandery was duly convened. Sir Knight Charles N. Orr, Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment was then duly received in full ceremony. Following this distinguished visitors from Missouri and Oklahoma were formally received. The Grand Representatives present representing the various Grand Jurisdictions were then introduced and welcomed.

The Grand Commander in presenting his address accompanied it with the wish that each might carry back to their respective Commanderies an inspiration that would strengthen the fraternal bond and a renewed determination to hold aloft the Order's ideals. Says the Grand Commander :

"No greater work can challenge our attention than the Christian Religion, in defense of which we are engaged. Templarism is founded upon Truth and the Christian Religion. Someone has said, 'Every institution is but the lengthened shadow of one man.' This is true of the Commandery, because the ideals and teachings of Jesus are our guide, and He is our perfect example. \* \* \* When we think of these sixty-nine

years of service and progress, there passes before our mind's eye a great pageant in which men of all ages have shared. If we are to enjoy the same high standards and carry forth our banners in this great procession of progress, we must have within our membership both young and old men from various walks of life. We need youth with its vision, and age with its conservative ideas. \* \* \* The young man has a vision for the future and a determination to accomplish things. We require the counsel and experience of age, the cool balance of middle life and the daring and determination of youth. Active, sincere leadership is an important factor in our continued progress. \* \* \* We should give our members something to do. \* \* \* I am a believer in the public appearance of Sir Knights in uniform, for it is this way that the public becomes aware of the solidarity of our high ideals and purposes. \* \* \* There is a growing eagerness to see Masonry in all of its branches become more active.

"It is evident that where symbolic Masonry is vigorous, Chivalric Masonry is on the increase. We, who are concerned about the future of Templary, should seek to promote the welfare of symbolic Masonry. \* \* \* Our growth as individual Sir Knights will depend not alone upon our activities within our Asylums, but also upon how we carry our ideals with us into our business and our homes. \* \* \* What we need today is a return to the simple teachings and idealism of Jesus. In this busy speeding world there is necessity for a proper balance. \* \* \* There are forces at work in the world today which seek the downfall of individual freedom. There are countries where a group of men such as are assembled here today would not be permitted to meet."

The Grand Commander pays loving tribute to the memory of two valiant Knights who having fought a good fight as leaders of the Kansas Templar host have sheathed their earthly swords and have received their "Well done thou good and faithful servant" accolade. I refer specifically Sir Knight Owen Jason Wood, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, Sir Knight Thomas Geyer Fitch, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander. Both these Sir Knights had been presiding officers of the other bodies of York Rite Masonry, and were towers of strength in performing their services to the Craft. This writer has held them both in high esteem as true Craftsmen for many years of personal contact. Sir Knight Fitch's service for the interests of the Masonic Home for many, many years will never be forgotten. Dispensations issued by the Grand Commander were of a routine nature.

Christmas and Easter were well observed by the Kansas Sir Knights. The Grand Commander mentions the acceptance of an invitation to dinner with Lochinvar Commandery No. 52, of Coffeyville, in honor of their Past Commanders. This brings up happy memories for it was in Lochinvar the writer was created a Knight Templar, and honored in serving as its Prelate and later as Commander (1916).

No decisions are mentioned by the Grand Commander, so we conclude none were called for. A happy situation. But two recommendations are offered, one an adjustment of the Grand Commandery Statutes to conform with those of the Grand Encampment. The other a forward-looking one, viz: the establishment of a Speakers Bureau for the promotion of

interest in Templary. The Grand Commander stated that during the year he had received many requests for such speakers.

The report of the Committee on Necrology is a well written and moving one. Possibly the writer feels it so for the reason it contains the record of the Muster Out of earthly warfare of Sir Knights Wood, Fitch, McCullagh and Cole, personal friends of past years in Kansas, true men and Masons, outstanding in their loyalty to their fraternity and to their State. I quote from the Report:

"But all alike were Knights Templar; each separately and alone had professed his faith in God; each with unforgettable chalice in hand, reflecting on the mortality of the body, had testified openly to his belief in the immortality of the soul, and each had enlisted under the banner of Him who, facing dissolution to Him known to be certain, said, 'Let not your heart be troubled.'

The report of the Committee on Educational Foundation headed by my good frater, William H. Martin, is as usual, concise and complete. From it we quote:

"The work of the Committee during the year has been harmonious, and we think effective, carrying out the intentions and desires of the Grand Encampment to the best of our ability. \* \* \* During the past year twenty-five loans were made. For the past three years applications for loans have been diminishing, no doubt due to our Masonic restrictions, and to some extent, at least, to the fact that the Federal Government is providing financial aid for worthy students in college. \* \* \* Under the prevailing conditions the report of our Secretary shows our collections to be good, which leads the Committee to believe our young debtors are doing their utmost to pay their obligations and in most cases manifest a splendid spirit. When conditions improve and employment again becomes normal, our collections will improve."

In spite of the foregoing, an item in the secretary's report rouses my curiosity. It reads:

"Unpaid interest to December 31, 1937, \$18,000.60."

It might be that a good collector could make a record recapturing interest, as well as securing replacement of good notes in lieu of those accepted without thorough investigation and "on student honor." In the language of our junior ex-president, it was "a noble experiment."

As an ex-member of the 1917 "B" drill team of Lochinvar Commandery No. 52, it gave the writer a distinct thrill to note they were still in the money. We still wear our badge of that effort, on occasion.

#### REVIEW

The Review is by Sir Knight Elmer F. Strain, Eminent Grand Recorder and as usual "thumbnail" but informing, averaging almost three jurisdictions to the page.

SIR KNIGHT WILLIAM F. SHEA,  
Arkansas City, Right Eminent Grand Commander.  
SIR KNIGHT ELMER F. STRAIN,  
Topeka, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Newton, May 9, 1939.

## KENTUCKY

As we open this volume we are greeted with one of the finest portraits of our Most Eminent Grand Master we yet have seen, clear and sharp in detail, with facial expression as though one had just entered his presence and he had said, "Glad to see you."

Following this we come upon a bust portrait of the Presiding Grand Commander at the 1938 Annual Conclave, held at Covington, May 18-19, Henry L. Nichols, accompanied with a biographical sketch. Then follows a three-quarter portrait of the incoming Grand Commander, Algernon Sidney Yewell. Our prophecy is that Templar interest under the new Grand Commander will rise to new high levels, both as to increased numbers and in interest in the active exemplification of the Templar ideal in daily living. The next portrait in this gallery of Templar nobility is that of Sir Knight Guy Tresslyn Johnson, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, who on account of failing health, felt it necessary to decline to accept the office of Grand Commander, to which he was unanimously nominated. The first three Sir Knights are in full uniform.

Complete and ample arrangements were effected providing for the entertainment of the Sir Knights and their ladies.

Prior to the convening of the Ninety-first Annual Conclave the Sir Knights assembled at the Masonic Temple in parade formation and marched to Trinity Episcopal Church, where Divine Service was held, following an address of welcome by Sir Knight Orie Solomon Ware, Past Commander of Covington Commandery No. 7, setting forth the growth and development of the city, its business advantages, its output of eminent citizens, their services to city, State and Nation, laying particular emphasis on the records of those men who had lived and rendered noble service in Kentucky Templary.

The sermon delivered by Sir Knight, the Reverend John William Mulder, based on the text, "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong." (I Cor. 16:13.) Space at command limits us in quoting from this inspiring address, but we will listen in for a moment or two as he says:

"Sir Knights, religion is a war. Today religion is far too peaceful and contented with itself, too little conscious of a war against the world, the flesh and the devil. It seems a tremendous fight if we would follow our blessed Lord. We have forgotten that we are soldiers. We speak of ourselves as servants or followers, and sometimes as pilgrims. We have forgotten that we were made Christ's soldiers at the font in Holy Baptism; and that in the Preflate's Apartment we were commanded, 'Take up that sword, and buckler; manfully fight thy way, and with valor run thy course.' We shouldn't have forgotten it, but I fear we have.

"We complain of hardships. We want to take our religion easy. \* \* \* We shun rough habit, coarse diet and severe duty. Rigid self-discipline we do not practice. \* \* \* But so often we lack the courage to stand. This

is due to the fact that we are not sufficiently rooted and grounded in Christ Himself. We demand mental reservations. We waver in our love and affection. We do not have the deep and living conviction that we are His soldiers, sent into the world to fight for Him; to carry out His orders, not to change them to our liking, not to argue among ourselves about which is the most important order, and certainly not to split up in platoons and companies that which should be a mighty army."

At roll call convening the Ninety-first Annual Conclave all Grand Officers with the exception of the Deputy Grand Commander (detained by ill health) answered present. Nineteen Past Grand Commanders also answered present. Followed then the reception of the distinguished visitors. Foremost of these was our own Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., and Sir Knight Adrian Hamersly, Right Eminent Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A. Introduced also were Sir Knight George Naegle, Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Ohio, and Sir Knight Ralph P. Cain, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Indiana.

The Grand Commander commenting in his address, on the observance of Easter, Ascension and Christmas Days, says:

"It is indeed, Sir Knights, a sad time when General Orders are not carried out. Christmas Observance reports were received from eighteen Commanderies, thirteen of them reporting having held a Christmas Observance. Eighteen Commanderies failed utterly to make a report to the Grand Recorder, as required by the Regulations as to return cards."

Practically the same experience occurred in regard to Easter Observance. Ten reported attendance on Divine Service; three joined with other commanderies in this observance; five reported no observance, while eighteen made no reply. Nothing is said as to the observance of Ascension Day. Reports received indicate that 375 Sir Knights in all attended Easter Services. Of these 276 were in uniform.

From the section of the Grand Commander's address on Finance and Membership, we find twenty-three of the eighty-four Sir Knights sheathing their swords during the year were Past Commanders. To offset this loss eighty-nine postulants received the Accolade. The net loss in membership during the year was 207, as against 186 the preceding year.

The Grand Commander reports having visited eight of the Commanderies of his Jurisdiction during the year. Among the Grand Commander's several recommendations is one that the State be divided into districts and that there take place district inspections, possibly moving to a different center each year. Also one recommendation that the Grand Commander and the Grand Recorder be appointed a committee to make contract with some uniform manufacturer to supply uniforms to every Commandery in the Jurisdiction. However, the Jurisprudence Committee, to whom the recommendations were referred, made no reference to either of them. But they did say:

"Sir Knights, as we all know, the Order of the Temple is founded on the Christian religion and the practice of the Christian virtues. The most holy days of the Christian year are Christmas, Easter and Ascension Day. Too much importance cannot be laid on the proper observance of these days, and if we are really and truly Christian knights with a proper conception of the lessons taught in our beautiful ritual, we should obey the orders of the Grand Commander, and hold these observance meetings as ordered by him and the Grand Master."

From the report of the Committee on Educational Foundation we find that during the calendar year 1937 there was paid on principal on student loans, \$10,336.79, payment on interest, \$2,655.13, and received on interest from securities, \$638.75. Loans outstanding amount to \$50,137.20, interest due but not paid amounts to \$7,312.80. The report does not reflect the number of new loans made during the year, but that they have paid out to student borrowers \$3,287.50, bringing the total loans made to college students to date to \$121,750.50. That the continued donations on the part of the Federal Government, under the National Youth Administration, have greatly reduced the number of applications we formerly received. There have been a number of applicants who, for one reason or another, have failed to qualify under the rules of the Foundation. On the subject of collections the report says:

"We are experiencing great difficulty in making collections, particularly with accounts that have been running for years, \* \* \* we shall inevitably sustain considerable financial loss."

This is a sad story. They expect to consider the advisability of sending to the Grand Encampment Committee, "a number of accounts that attorneys have returned to us as 'Uncollectible'." Respectful tribute to the dead is paid by the Committee on Necrology.

The Address of Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master is printed in full as a supplement to the Proceedings. As I read it I become conscious that alert mind and eagle eye of the Grand Master was actively engaged, as he sat in Conclave with them, and walked and talked with them during periods of relaxation and refreshment, in forming conclusions as to the needs of that section of his great charge as Grand Master of Knights Templar, the largest body of Templars in the world today. Listen to this transcription:

"Leadership, Masonry throughout the United States, has for some years last passed, been losing membership. In England it has been gaining. The question is, Why? The officers of the Grand Encampment, and of the various Grand Commanderies have naturally thought much about the matter and have sought solutions. Many reasons are offered for the losses referred to. The reason least often given is lack of leadership in the constituent and subordinate commanderies. This is natural, since we are prone to charge failure to others and not to ourselves. It is not within the power of officers of the Grand bodies to do more than to plan and advise. Details of any plan must be executed by those on the ground. They are the only ones who can be aware of the real conditions in their respective communities, and plans are vain unless carried out in the bodies which form the foundation of our Order.

"I have been working in Templar Masonry for nearly two score years. I do not hesitate to say, that in my opinion our losses are due more to our own fault than to any other cause. The business of the constituent and subordinate commanderies is not attended to as it should be. When this defect is remedied our losses will largely cease and the influence of our Order increase. \* \* \* Templary has a business side, a social side and an ethical side. As to its business side. No man has the respect of his fellows unless he so lives as to command that respect. The same is true of organizations. No body which fails to elect as its officers men who have the respect of the community and does not pay its debts promptly, and live up to its contracts and promises, can command respect. \* \* \* Its members tend to demit, on the ground that they do not care to be identified with such an organization. For the same reason good men refuse to join. \* \* \* The too common practice of electing officers because of personal popularity, glad hand fellowship and jovial disposition, is poor business. Promotion by seniority regardless of ability and willingness to lead efficiently, is also poor business.

"The recorder is the most important officer of a commandery. Other officers change, but the recorder usually continues for years. He is the repository of the history and traditions of the commandery. He keeps the accounts, collects the dues, and is the responsible business head. Is he bonded? Are his accounts audited at least annually? Is he given assistance in the collection of dues? How often it happens that the commandery has some aged, infirm member who needs some small assistance, and who is therefore given the office of recorder regardless of fitness. Then the business of the commandery suffers.

"Dues are the life blood of a commandery. Without them it cannot exist. No single member can without assistance collect dues efficiently, for collection from each member is a separate problem, solution of which often depends on personal interview and investigation. \* \* \* If the real cause is poverty, temporary or permanent, dues should be remitted. \* \* \* Such problems should be cleared up annually. Allowing dues to accumulate unpaid and unremitted for years should not be tolerated. Committees should assist any recorder in bringing about such an annual clearance. Bonding the financial officer should never be omitted and their accounts should be audited annually or oftener. \* \* \* Annual budgets of revenue and expense should be made and lived up to. \* \* \* The commander has the responsibility of overseeing these business activities.

"As to its social side; Every commandery must, if it is to continue to exist, not only gain new members, but also keep the old ones interested and desirous of continuing their memberships. To accomplish this the commandery must exhibit and maintain an interest in its members. No one maintains an interest in a person or an organization when that person or organization shows no interest in us. That is a law of life which none can avoid. Very many commanderies are derelict in this regard. To illustrate; To start the interest of a candidate the Orders must be well conferred. \* \* \* Well done the work is beautiful and impressive, teaching lessons of high morality and usefulness. If ill done, those who see it fail to be interested. Ritualism tends to pall on the hearer, especially if poorly presented. \* \* \* Does the commandery keep track of him and his family? Is his home visited? If illness occurs are there flowers sent? Are members advised of the illness and asked to call or to give assistance? Is aid in illness tendered, or must the wife work during the day, and watch over the ill at night?

"If unemployment occurs, is effort made to find some for him? Does the Commandery have social meetings when the families can be-

The report of the Educational Foundation Committee is well presented and may be quickly understood. Eight new loans were made during the year, against five made last year. This brings the total to 176 students assisted. Of loans made prior to 1933 to 121 students, 30 have made no payments, 42 have paid in full, while 42 have made payments. These delinquent notes will ultimately be sent to the Grand Encampment Committee for a final aggressive attempt to collect them before charging them off.

We note, too, that securities (Government) have been purchased to the extent of \$6,000.00 with surplus Funds.

#### REVIEW

The Grand Encampment Review was incorporated with the copies of their Proceedings distributed to the several Constituent Commanderies.

SIR KNIGHT C. ELLIS OTT,  
Bogalusa, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT ALBERT B. DAVIS,  
New Orleans, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Bogalusa, April 17, 1939.

#### MAINE

Maine the remote, the farthest north, a wedge splitting the Canadian Dominion, with the Province of Quebec on the west, and the Province of New Brunswick on the east, her feet washed by the cooling waters of the Atlantic Ocean, while she draws to her heart side the State of New Hampshire as a very dear friend of her own family.

Good afternoon Sir Knight Frank Everett Fleming, Right Eminent Grand Commander, and your portrait in full uniform adorning the Proceedings as a frontispiece adds luster to the book.

The Eighty-seventh Annual Conclave was convened on May 5, at 1:00 p. m. in the Masonic Temple at Portland. All Grand Officers answered roll call, as did fifteen of the living Past Commanders, and thirty-two Grand Representatives. Present also was Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., who, under an escort of Past Grand Commanders was conducted into the Asylum and there received by the Right Eminent Grand Commander under an arch of steel, and tendered command of the Grand Commandery. After expressing his pleasure at being in their midst he returned the command, and routine business proceeded. In the meantime many other distinguished guests from neighboring jurisdictions were duly presented and received, among them being Most Eminent Knight Walter W. Williamson, Past Supreme Grand Master of the Great Priory of Canada.

In the report of the Grand Commander we find several observations worthy of notice, for example:

"As we departed one year ago to our respective homes, there appeared to be no clouds on the horizon and all looked forward to greater Templar activity during the year. But our economic condition today is vastly different than at this time one year ago. Business is at a low ebb. Needless to say this has had its effect on our Order. A year ago we anticipated a slight increase in total membership for the year, but we are sorry to report the reverse is true. This year shows a net loss in membership of two hundred fifty-four."

The observance of Christmas did not receive the proper attention of Sir Knights of the various Commanderies of the State. Easter Sunday was much better observed. Five dispensations were issued Commanderies to appear in public in uniform for the observance of St. John's day in June. This is an outstanding observance on the part of Sir Knights of Maine. It appears to be a religious service! Then why a dispensation?

Other dispensations were for routine occasions. We note with great interest the conduct of schools of instruction. This action is highly commendable, and the results we are sure will be greatly beneficial to the Order. The Grand Commander made numerous visits to the Commanderies under his jurisdiction, also a number of interstate visits at which he was most cordially received.

On tour of inspection, the Grand Commander found ample opportunity for commendation of the excellent rendition of the Ritual, especial stress being laid upon the splendid work of Commanders and Prelates.

Says the Grand Commander:

"It is my opinion that the time is long passed when we may expect the Sir Knights to attend Conclaves of the Constituent Commanderies where no work or program of entertainment is provided and all that takes place is the official opening, transaction of business and closing of the Commandery. If our Constituent Commanderies, especially the smaller ones are to continue to operate and be successful, this Grand Commandery must take more interest in the activities of our Constituent Commanderies and be in position to make constructive suggestions as to how the Conclaves of the Constituent Commanderies could be made more interesting. \* \* \* I recommend the appointment of a live energetic committee by this Grand Commandery whose duty would be to formulate and recommend ways and means of assisting the Constituent Commanderies to obtain programs when such assistance is needed."

He recommends the segregation of the Grand Commandery Conclaves from the other York Rite Annual meetings, thereby having men in attendance with nothing but the Commandery affairs in mind and the disposition to give them full attention, also to provide time for other functions sponsored by the Grand Commandery. He also recommends the formation of a work team fully equipped to confer the Order of the Red Cross elaborating on the various details, and where possible to dramatize it. We concur most heartily, the suggestion has great merit. Interest and attendance will greatly increase following this.

The Grand Commander in his conclusion evidently over-looked the teachings of the Order of Malta when he said "Again in the Order of the Temple we have the only strictly Christian degree in all Masonry founded upon the Christian Religion and the practice of the Christian virtues. The Educational Foundation Fund as reported by its Treasurer displays activity, some 22 notes having been accepted during the year, totalling \$3,300. We further note, notes receivable \$69,000.00 reflected in this report. Following up the report of the Committee we find no comment of this item. It excites interest to say the least! The Grand Master's Address is printed in full.

In part he said:

"The responsibility for the foundation of the Grand Commandery of every jurisdiction rests more upon the officers of the constituent commanderies than it does at any other place. The Grand Officers of your Grand Commanderies can only advise and suggest improvements or changes, or whatever you have, in regard to promoting the prosperity of the constituent commandery. The execution of such plan, the carrying out of the administration of your constituent commanderies; and if they do not work at all, or only do a half-baked job, your commandery under such an administration as that is bound to decline. \* \* \* Now the fact is, the officers of the constituent commanderies should sit up and take notice and acknowledge their responsibility for the administration of their commandery, and try to put it across in a wholehearted intelligent way, not in a half-baked manner that I know many of them do.

"I go into constituent commanderies and I see work done there at times that is a disgrace. It is swindle to take a man's fees and give him the work and the Orders the way they do it. I have been in commanderies over and over again when I have seen that very thing. I find this to be pretty nearly universal, and I have taken it up with them. \* \* \* Now people say, 'we haven't any work. What are we going to do? What is there for us to do?' \* \* \* Why not hold your meeting and have a speaker who can tell you something about the history and the principles of Templar Masonry? About the ideals it inculcates and the service it can do in the community if it is only active instead of being dead! \* \* \* They will have a social night; they will invite their ladies to come. They will have a card party or a little sociable.

"But they will not let their lights go out! \* \* \* I know other commanderies which are among the most prosperous that I know, that meet every week and each week there is a list handed to each attendant, 'So and so is ill and can see friends,' or 'So and so is ill and not able to see friends but flowers have been sent to his home and the family would appreciate messages of sympathy at least.' \* \* \* If the man eventually becomes well he remembers that thing and he says, 'This organization helps me, it is interested in me. I will be interested in it.' \* \* \* Of course you might say we have a business side, too. In some of our constituent commanderies I have found, by personal contact and experience, they do not budget their expenses—they do not keep very good account. All these things could be corrected if the officers would go about it in a wholehearted way and not do a half-way job."

The Grand Master laid great stress, and properly too, on the fact that we are a Christian organization with Christ as our great example, and that we should exhale in our daily life His great teachings. Take

this from Templary and you hold an empty shell. There is no doubt left in the mind of any hearer of the Grand Master as to his attitude toward the cardinal principles of Templary.

#### REVIEW

The splendid Review is by Sir Knight Wilson, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT FRANK E. SOUTHDARD,  
Augusta, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT CONVERS E. LEACH,  
Portland, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Portland, May 4, 1939.

#### MARYLAND

In 1632 Cecilius Calvert, second Lord Baltimore, received from Charles I, a charter, conferring on him the possession of the territory now forming the States of Maryland and Delaware. It was the intention of the lord proprietor to found a feudal State in Maryland, named in honor of Charles' Queen, Henrietta Maria. The charter provided for the payment of an annual tribute of two Indian arrows.

So with origin determined, we find that in later years, 1870, the Grand Commandery came into being, and we are now writing on the Proceedings of the Sixty-eighth Annual Conclave convened in the city of Cumberland on May 18, 1938, with Sir Knight Edwin S. White, Right Eminent Grand Commander presiding, all Grand Officers present, together with nine Past Grand Commanders, and a constitutional number of Representatives of the Constituent Commanderies.

Numerous distinguished Sir Knights were duly received and welcomed by the Grand Commander, outstanding among them was Sir Knight Harry Pollard, Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A.

As we read, we find that the report of the Grand Commander "was received with a loud and strong applause." Let us investigate the cause. Christmas was duly observed. The five Commanderies of Baltimore observed the day with proper ceremony at the Masonic Temple there.

The observances out of the city were held at the various asylums of the Commanderies, and were well attended throughout. A number of the Commanderies also gave Christmas parties, which it was the pleasure of the Grand Commander to be able to attend. While we find no record of the observance of Easter Day, we are pleased to find that Ascension Day was properly celebrated by a number of the Commanderies.

In the matter of Official Visitations, the Grand Commander reports that these visits have been filled with so much pleasantness that they will remain in his memory for years to come.

During the year the Grand Commander made numerous fraternal visits to Lodge, Chapter and Templar Bodies in and out of the State. All of these afforded pleasure and inspiration. On Condition of the Order, the Grand Commander reports:

"We have been going through a period of suspensions, demits and losses by death, but on our visits throughout the State there appears to be new life in the Commanderies. In fact, most all the Commanderies have had candidates to confer the Order of the Temple upon, on our visits.

"All of the Commanderies, we notice, have started an interchange of visits and it has been very gratifying to see on our visits, officers and members of other Commanderies present. \* \* \* We have so often spoken of candidates. We try to impress on the Commanderies and Sir Knights that it takes candidates to keep your Commanderies alive. Sir Knights, what we need to do is to find out why the Sir Knights do not attend after they are knighted. \* \* \* Let us endeavor to instil new life in our Commanderies and, Sir Knights, I have no doubt the applications will be forthcoming."

Reading the report of the Educational Foundation Committee we learn that during the year eighteen new loans were granted. Seventeen loans were paid in full and the usual honorary certificates were issued to the payors. Increase in collections wholly due to the efforts of the Secretary to secure regular payments. Although there may be eventual losses in a few loans, it has not been necessary to resort to legal action. Many letters of appreciation have been received.

Following the election of the Grand Officers, during which Sir Knight Edwin Sessions White, retiring Grand Commander was elected Eminent Grand Recorder, retiring Eminent Grand Recorder, Gustav A. Eitel, was by a rising vote elected Grand Recorder Emeritus, with an Annuity of \$500.00. This as the reward of many years of faithful and efficient service. May he live many years to enjoy this tribute of esteem. (Died August 6, 1938.)

#### REVIEW

Sir Knight Howard M. Emmons, again presents his well condensed review of the Highlights of the Grand Commanderies of the Grand Encampment.

The incoming Grand Commander, Grant Albert Wiebel, is presented to the Templar world as the frontispiece of the 1938 Proceedings, in full Templar uniform. Studying it, we are convinced he is looking

seriously into the coming year, asking himself, "What does it hold for Templary?" Let it be substantial numerical and spiritual growth, Sir Grant!

SIR KNIGHT GRANT ALBERT WIEBEL,  
Baltimore, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT EDWIN SESSIONS WHITE,  
Baltimore, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Baltimore, May 17, 1939.

#### MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND

On May 11, 1938, at Providence, R. I., the One Hundred and Thirty-second Semi-Annual Conclave of the above named Grand Commandery was duly convened with prayer by the Eminent Associate Grand Prelate, Sir Knight and Reverend Frank S. Congdon, and with Sir Knights, Adelbert E. Place, Right Eminent Grand Commander, presiding. The Grand Commander's Address was short, owing to the fact that his detailed report of the year's acts would be given at the Annual Conclave to be held in Boston on October 19, 1938.

Opening his Address the Grand Commander said:

"Perhaps I may fondly magnify this Conclave here today more than anyone else and view with an enthusiasts's eye the beauties of it all. Sir Knights, we are assembled in my home city of Providence, and within the four walls of the Asylum, in which I was Knighted in Calvary Commandery No. 13. Twenty-four years have filled the cycle of time since I became a member of this great Order, and still deep in my heart are the recollections of June 14, 1914, the date I was Knighted.

"As I stand here today, as Grand Commander, and welcome you, I am filled with a feeling that cannot be fully expressed in words. I welcome you, Sir Knights, with all the pride and all the joy at my command. \* \* \* While we have a few matters of routine business today, and have assembled from a sense of duty to attend them, we know the pleasure that is to be ours in renewing old friendships. From the cities, villages, and rural districts, of this Grand Jurisdiction, you, Sir Knights, have come to this Semi-Annual Conclave, to mingle with one another in fraternal brotherhood, and to associate in the spirit of brotherly love, thereby better fitting yourselves, as you return to your home and Commanderies, for a greater and more abundant performance of these real duties you owe to your respective communities and to mankind in general."

The report of the Committee on Christmas Offering and Good Cheer presented a most interesting report, in fact the most striking report that has come under our observation in preparing the 1938 Review. In part it runs:

"While the amount collected was slightly less than in 1936 the total amount was \$4,798.61, a great opportunity to do good and to exemplify the teachings of our Magnanimous Institution. Let the good work go on—our goal for 1938 is \$6,000.00 or better."

This is indeed a noble manifestation of the spirit of Templary on the part of some 17,000 Sir Knights.

The Committee on Educational Foundation in presenting their report say in part:

"It is a happy privilege to report the general satisfactory condition of the Fund of our Division of the Educational Foundation. Since the inception of the Fund, we have served 1,045 young people; in every case our correspondence reveals that sincere gratitude has been the attitude of each one. \* \* \* It is well, however, to know that 411 have repaid in full the loans granted them. Of the delinquents, but 20 may be classed as doubtful accounts. \* \* \* It is interesting to note that the brilliant student as classed by the college is often a poor financier, neglectful of obligations and thoughtless of others."

One hundred and twenty-two applications have been received during the year. Of these 50 are the children of Master Masons, 33 of Knights Templar, 39 non-affiliated.

At the closing of the report of the Educational Committee, communications from distinguished Sir Knights, expressing regret at being unable to be present at the Semi-Annual Conclave were read.

Following this the Grand Commander introduced Sir Knights the Reverend Dorrance B. Lothrop, of St. Johns Commandery No. 1, who addressed the Conclave, taking as his subject, "What Men Live By." I deeply regret that space will not permit my quoting from this excellent, inspiring address quite freely. However, I must let my readers enjoy some highlights:

"Certain things are necessary for the physical life of man—food, air, water, and in most climates, clothes for the protection of the body. But the physical life is not all. The Great Teacher once became so interested in imparting His truth to another, that he forgot about being hungry, and when questioned by one of his disciples answered, 'I have meat to eat that ye know not of.' His whole being had been refreshed. This incident suggests the question, 'What are the things that men live by?' What are the right things that go into the making of a life? In the first we mention work. Man in his highest development, is largely a product of work. We would none of us want to be numbered among either the idle rich or the idle poor. \* \* \* When it was said of man that in the sweat of his brow he should eat his bread, the prophecy became not a curse but a blessing. \* \* \* Men live by friendship.

"A celebrated Frenchman was asked the secret of his success and answered, 'I had a friend.' How much it means to us to have a friend or friends who believe in us! How much it helps us to measure up, with courage, to do our best! \* \* \* Men live by religion. There are those who will tell you that religion is old-fashioned, and so is the alphabet, and so is the multiplication table, and so are the stars that shine by night. But these things are likewise up to date. They are timeless. So is man's religion. Instinctively he feels the nearness of God and prays. He feels that the earth is incomplete without heaven; that time is incomplete without eternity. With faith he lives and with faith he looks into the unknown future, and finds his life enriched, enlarged and blessed by that faith.

"It was no doubt a wonderful event when this planet upon which we live was formed out of that which was without form and void. \* \* \* It

was a greater event than all that had gone before when man appeared. The supreme moment was when man fell upon his knees before his God, and lifted up his face to heaven, and called God Father, and realized he could have fellowship with the Divine. These, then, are some of the things that go to make life, and to make it its best; work and play and fellowship and service, crowned by religion, which last gives meaning to all other worthy things by which we live."

Lunch and adjournment followed.

The One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Annual Conclave was convened in Boston October 19, 1938, with Sir Knight Adelbert E. Place, Right Eminent Grand Commander, presiding. Fifty Commanderies of the fifty-three of the Jurisdiction were represented. Under an escort of Past Commanders and Past Grand Commanders, Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., was introduced to the Conclave and most warmly welcomed by the Grand Commander. Following this Grand Commanders from New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Maine, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey were introduced and most cordially made welcome.

Followed then the introduction of the various presiding officers of the other York Rite Bodies of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, who were graciously and fraternally welcomed. With that the Grand Commander presented his Address. From his Official Circular No. 1, we quote:

"The Commander of Constituent Commanderies should see that a list of all Chapter members eligible for Knighthood is prepared and that these men be contacted for an answer."

Again:

"All of the days designated for special observance will be recognized, such as Christmas, Easter, Ascension Day, St. John's Day, Patriotic and Flag Days."

Again:

"The public installation is commended, and every Commandery is urged to hold a public installation if convenient."

Again:

"Make use of Veterans and Old Timers Nights, Past Commanders Nights, and field days especially. Inter-Commandery exchange of visits should be made, with full form opening exhibition by the visiting Commandery."

Again:

"Have attractions to bring the members back, don't let them drift, it takes leadership. Appoint a live Social Committee, work with them, and see that something is doing all the time. The success of Templary rests entirely in the hands of the Commanders, its officers and individual members. May we all electrify ourselves, put forth our whole energies. Well might each officer and Sir Knight call themselves to prayer, that, as individual Sir Knights we may strive for the glorious success of this

Christian Order. Thus we will acquit ourselves as true Templars. \* \* \* My message to all Sir Knights is one of hope and assurance. If we heed it we need not falter."

Christmas, 1937, was observed by the Sir Knights of this great jurisdiction in a most effective and worth-while manner in the distribution of foods and clothing to the destitute of their respective communities. As previously stated, some \$4,800.00 is collected annually throughout the State from the Sir Knights, and is used to purchase foods and clothing for distribution to the needy. A glorious accomplishment.

*"I saw a widow's tears, I heard the cry,  
Her little ones in rags and misery,  
Her household lamp gone out, her firelight dead,  
In loneliness and lack of needed bread."*

Sketching the reports of the 53 Commanderies of the Jurisdiction, we quote the report from Bethany No. 17, as typical of the work done in distributing Christmas Good Cheer to the distressed:

"I wish some of our Sir Knights who have given so generously could go into the homes where this money has been spent and see for themselves how much joy has been brought to the unfortunates. The amount of thanks received this year was beyond my expectation. I think, as Knights Templar, we should thank God for the many blessings He has given to us and our Order."

On Easter Observance the Grand Commander reports that many Commanderies attended church service on Easter Sunday. From the Grand Prelate's Easter Message to the Jurisdiction I quote in part:

"I believe in 'the immortality of the soul' because I believe in God, in His Justice and Love. Man has an inborn sense of a higher destiny and it cannot be that such a God-given instinct is false. In nature there is made provision for man's sustenance, liquid to quench his thirst, food to satisfy his hunger; with our souls filled with a hunger and thirst for a continued life and higher destiny, it must be that provision is made to satisfy such desire. To me it has always been a source of encouragement and confidence to feel myself a part of God's eternal purpose. I look out upon the world, the earth with its wondrous formation; the sky with its myriad stars and planets; humanity with its marvelous development and almost infinite possibilities, and when I put myself to thinking about it all, I am appalled. I cannot believe that all that has been done, all that I can see and understand, is only for the short span of years, be blotted out, defeated. With all the time and care that has been taken, it must be that eternity is needed to complete the structure and fulfill the purpose of it all."

Quoting from the Grand Commander's Address, embodying his Official Circular No. 3, February 8, 1938:

"One of the serious problems which concerns all of us is 'How can a re-awakening activity of our great Christian Fraternity be brought about?' and I call upon each one of you to give this all important subject your most careful thought with a view of correcting the condition of small attendance at the Conclaves. Up to the time of the World War, attendance at Conclaves was large, but since then something has happened

which has affected it to a noticeable and discouraging degree. All sorts of guesses have been made and are being made from all over the Grand Encampment Jurisdiction and the solution has not yet been found, but there is evidence, slight as it is, of a natural movement back to a religious awakening and the newspapers throughout the country are taking notice of this. Let us, therefore, do our part in emphasizing to our Sir Knights, that our ritual is something more than mere words—that it is a part of life and the passing on to the Celestial. Notwithstanding the beauties of the Orders of Red Cross, Malta and Temple, these CAN be embellished by the introduction of music in harmony with the lessons taught, and surely would add much to the impressiveness of the dramas, not alone to our candidates, but to the membership as well, and doubtless bring out some of our 'stay-at-homes' who feel they are familiar with the spoken word but just need a little encouragement by way of variety to attract their attendance to our Conclaves.

"All of us have tried banquets, smokers, entertainment of the vaudeville style and still the attendance remains the same at each Conclave. Is it not well to remember that our Knights are serious-minded men and value those things which lead one on to permanency in the building of the ideals upon which our Order is founded?"

Much food for thought here, Sir Knights! I have gone to some length in quoting this thought provoking Order. But all of us need its stirring effect!

On the subject of Constituent Commandery inter-visits which occurred during the year the Grand Commander is fully assured they have met with wonderful success. Many of these were held in form of ladies nights and promoted a broader acquaintance and more extensive fellowship between the officers, Sir Knights and the ladies.

Of Official visitations the Grand Commander says:

"Fraternal visits made to Constituent Commanderies at Inspections, ladies nights, installations, church and other events, are occasions of equal pleasure and benefit. \* \* \* They make the opportunity for social communion and delightful intercourse, acting as a magnet of attraction, sometimes to draw long absent fraters to their Commandery. \* \* \* One thing I wish to call your attention to is the number of Sir Knights not in uniform at Inspections. The uniform is an important factor in the appearance of the Sir Knights on the evening of Inspection. Many of the members who have uniforms fail to wear them, and this detracts from the appearance of the body."

The Grand Commander is also quite sure that the Sir Knight who keeps his dues paid up should be contacted and aroused to a sense of active interest in the work and attendance at Conclaves. This will apply to any Commandery regardless of place.

On the subject of "Dormant and Delinquent Members" the Grand Commander says:

"Do these Sir Knights who can, but do not pay their dues, realize what the true mission of Templary is? These men should be contacted by a committee composed of Sir Knights who have the faculty of reaching the hearts and purses of men. \* \* \* There are cases where suspensions

## MICHIGAN

Michigan is the birthplace and residence of the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A. He has lived his life there. He has been prominent in both York and Scottish Rite Masonry, and is now giving his efforts to the work of the Grand Encampment, hoping that the closing years of a long life may be useful to an Order dedicated to Truth, Justice, and the Christian Religion.

As we read his biography published in the Proceedings, we find the world to him is as an open book. Among the places visited we find the island of Malta, the last stronghold of the ancient Hospitalers, whence they were ejected by Napoleon in 1798. Many evidences of their occupation still remain, which our Grand Masters doubtless witnessed with deep interest. Among historic places visited by him may have been St. John's Church, the Palace, the Museum, and the famous Hypogeum. Says a noted writer on Malta :

"One could walk the streets of the Knight's city with the Grand Masters whose escutcheons are its chief ornament, undisturbed by the instruments of any modern anachronisms. \* \* \* Forts, palaces, churches—all seem to be a solid, integral part of the rock of Malta."

In opening the Proceedings we first salute Sir Knight Fred H. Locke, Presiding Grand Commander, in full uniform, then our beloved Grand Master, in full regalia.

Michigan is justly proud of these two valiant Sir Knights. We congratulate Michigan! Sir Knight Mark Norris loves the out-of-doors, the life in the camp. Says his biographer :

"Then, when evening comes, particularly a crisp evening when a fire helps to make the night real, one forgets Brother Norris' abstraction against dishes in the warmth of his fine mind which can dwell intelligently and instructively on any topic that may engage the attention and interest of the party."

Again:

"Brother Norris' chief recreation is reading. As a young man he read many volumes of history and his retentive memory allows him to quote dates and scenes from those histories even today. \* \* \* He owns one of the most complete Bible libraries in Michigan and has for years been a student and disciple of Swedenborg and a member of the Church of the New Jerusalem."

Preceding the convening of the Eighty-second Annual Conclave, at 6:30 p. m., June 6, the Grand Officers Round Table gathered for its annual custom to "break bread and sup pure water," at the "get together meal."

June 7, the Grand Commandery was duly convened. During the morning :

"A very beautiful and elaborate basket of flowers was received and

presented to the Grand Commandery on behalf of the local organization of the Knights of Columbus. The presentation was duly acknowledged by Grand Commander Locke, who expressed his deep appreciation of the friendship of this organization and the evidences of esteem shown in many ways, particularly the evidence that unity of action is required of all believers, if the preservation of the Christian Religion is to be maintained against the growing and tremendous opposition daily evidenced in this and foreign countries."

At noon a recess was declared until 9:00 a. m. next day for the purpose of participation in Templar Parade at 4:00 p. m. and the exhibition drills for the evening. All this was carried out in full accord with the glorious tradition, and under ideal weather conditions. One outstanding feature of the exhibition drills was that of Detroit Commandery with sixteen platoons, entertaining the assemblage with a special exhibition drill and regimental dress parade. Having seen them in action we know it was an inspiring spectacle.

Grand Commandery reconvened the next morning and numerous distinguished visitors were received with ceremony. But the Grand climax was that of the reception of Michigan's own son, Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master, into its arms.

In opening his Address to the Grand Commandery, Sir Knight Fred H. Locke, Right Eminent Grand Commander voices his inner impressions in inspiring language. As :

"Then there is the mind which is always discovering something new and reaching out to the very stars in its many and divergent attitudes. Well has the poet said, 'my mind to me a kingdom is,' for in its operations it knows no limitations as to time, place, circumstances, and course of events. A richly endowed mind need never fear solitude for it can commune with the past and the present in its manifold ramifications so that it lives over again past experiences or invites new and even startling impressions in this great adventure that life has to offer on the intellectual side. But there is still another experience that man has awaiting him in his tri-partite nature and that is the spiritual.

If we are princes and lords in our intellectual experiences, as we travel along life's pathway, we are kings and emperors, nay, even gods, in our spiritual relations with God and man. Here we reign supreme in the adventure called life, for here we not only touch the stars, we transcend them and penetrate into the holy of holies of our very existence—nearest to and like unto God, as far as the development of the spirit will permit us to be carried. Here then, we find the answer to many things that life offers as mysterious and hidden from our superficial view. Here we find unfolded to us the whole sum and substance of the reason of our being and the attitude we should assume toward God and man. \* \* \* Here our spirits touch the spirit of God, and we find solace in the disappointments and trials, the temptations and failures that we meet in this great adventure we have launched upon and which we call life. Here too, we find the strength and encouragement so essentially necessary to carry on as we progress in our spiritual development, and here we feel unafraid in the presence of bodily decay which we commonly call death. For we are aware of a kinship between the great soul that emanates and expresses itself in God, and our own personal and individual spiritual existence, because it is that immortal part of ourselves which does not die.

"So passing through the great adventure called life we find our physical natures developed and enriched, our mental existence endowed with the rarest and finest expressions of man's experiences, and our spiritual natures enlarged, broadened, and deepened by the consciousness of our relationship with the great soul of God."

A gloriously beautiful testimony!

The Grand Commander reports:

"One of the features of the Triennial Conclave was the Wisconsin-Michigan dinner given in honor of Most Eminent Grand Master Sir Knight Agnew, and Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master, Sir Knight Mark Norris."

He reports attendance on Conclaves of Illinois, Wisconsin, Ohio and Indiana, receiving inspiration from each visit. He has been active in visiting his own Commanderies, and speaks enthusiastically of a number of Inter-Commandery meetings which he attended, and expresses the opinion there is nothing a Commandery can do that will create a greater interest and revival of Templar spirit on the part of the membership than this type of meeting. He recommends the further development of this idea to all Commanderies for the general good of the Order and in particular the Commanderies participating. On condition of the Commanderies he reports:

"Nearly all Commanderies show a marked improvement during the past year in spirit, morale, activity, and interest in Templar work. \* \* \* I am happy to say that our loss is the smallest it has been for several years. \* \* \* It is my opinion that many can be reclaimed through the active, tactful work of the Reclamation Committee work in conjunction with the Hospitaler Committee. This Committee, I trust, may be continued.

"Social Activities. \* \* \* This is an important factor in stimulating interest in Commandery affairs. A strong woman's auxiliary in a Commandery will do much toward increasing interest, attendance and general good of the Commandery if properly organized and I recommend to all Constituent Commanderies this phase of Commandery activity.

"Observance Days. \* \* \* The fact that the observance of these days is recorded to your credit in your inspection report is testimony of their emphasized importance. It is my hope that these events will be continued with increasing fervor.

"Educational Foundation. This fund has been carefully handled by the Committee in charge. \* \* \* I recommend that steps be taken to increase the service of this fund, and that the compulsory insurance policy be eliminated as a loan requirement. The history of administering this fund, I believe, will prove that this feature is simply an added burden to the student making the loan and only in a single instance has it been operative. \* \* \* When an Educational Fund Committee can only report the Funds as being safely invested or deposited in some Bank or Trust Company, its usefulness is ended. We should strive not only to preserve but to keep this fund active."

The Annual Banquet was held on Wednesday at 7:00 p. m. at the Pantlind Hotel. Owing to the large attendance it was given in the ball

room. The outstanding feature of the evening was the Address of the Grand Master. Excerpts follow:

"As I look upon this audience, the thought comes to me that here is an assembly of citizens who have come here, at their own expense, not to gain advantage for themselves, but to promote the interests of an Order which stands for Truth, Justice, Liberty and the ideals of Christianity.

"Today these things are denied, opposed and sought to be destroyed. War is in the air.

"There is war between the ideals of individualism and communism. There is war between popular government and dictatorship. There is war between Christianity and paganism and unbelief. Modern civilization is in a state of flux. Old standards of action known to men from the beginning of time, are denied. Laws ingrained in human nature itself are derided and condemned.

"It has been the consensus of human opinion from the beginning of history, that there are five great crimes,—murder, trespass, theft, adultery and perjury. We regard human opposition to such crimes as Truth. \* \* \* The teachings of Communism are based on the denial of such Truth, for to the Communist there is no such thing as theft, since no person has any right to own or possess anything. These teachings are equally a denial of Justice and the ideals of Christianity, for Justice forbids theft, and the ten commandments say, 'Thou shalt not steal,' and Liberty implies the right to own and possess what one has lawfully gained. \* \* \* We are told that waste results in plenty. The government destroys the bounty of nature; it pays producers to produce nothing, at a time when hungry children are crying for bread. Tax money is being paid producers of food to induce them not to produce. The price must be raised for the producer, and the consumer must suffer. Scarcity so produced will result in plenty, we are told. The less we work the more we will have, they tell us. Into the orderly processes of production, the whims of theorists who do not understand those processes have introduced chaos. Even into the industries which in slack time endeavor to operate, strike and terrorism cause stoppages. \* \* \* In the five years 1933-37 this voluntary loss has amounted to 93,000,000 days or 361,000 years. In 1937 there were 4,740 strikes, in which 28,425,000 days work were lost. A record.

"A law recently sustained by the Supreme Court, compels employers under penalty to employ men whom they do not wish to employ because they know they intend to produce disorder in the plants. Soon we may have laws compelling men to work when such is not their desire. That was the condition of the slave. \* \* \* These things are not Truth, Justice and Liberty. They are the opposites. \* \* \* Already the Chief Magistrate of our Country has claimed that Courts have no right to pronounce a law of Congress unconstitutional. If such a claim were held valid, the citizen would have no rights—save those of revolution by force of arms. WHY SPEAK OF THESE THINGS IN THIS PRESENCE? Because they are not TRUTH, JUSTICE, nor LIBERTY, and WHEN THE INDIVIDUAL MASON ceases to be interested in the orderly development of an enlightened civilization, he will cease to be a true Mason and our Order will cease to exist.

"There is no Masonry in Russia, in Germany, in Italy, in Turkey, and other totalitarian states. Organizations seeking human enlightenment, Truth, Justice and Liberty, are not wanted by those greedy for Power."

The capitals are used by the writer. The Grand Master's address is a call to attention. Masons of America, AWAKE! The Clarion Call! Every Mason should read and ponder! This Address was the subject of active discussion at the following day's Conclave and a motion was presented to have it printed, distributed among the Commanderies of Michigan, with instructions that it be read at the head of the lines of each Commandery. Announcement was then made that a radio broadcast of the address was being arranged. After much discussion it was decided that the Commander of each Commandery should decide as to the best opportunity to present the Address to his Commandery. All of which was adopted.

The Report on Educational Foundation sets forth that:

"The Knights Templar Educational Foundation still stands as Templar Masonry's most outstanding achievement, the visible expression of a pledge to be of assistance to those in need; the fulfillment of a desire that was far more than a dream in the heart of our distinguished Frater, Past Grand Commander, Fred A. Aldrich, who is now most deservedly Chairman of the Educational Foundation Committee of the Grand Encampment."

Fifty-seven loans were made during 1937, totalling \$11,000.00. "This is not enough to make the Foundation live up to its greatest possibilities." Other loan organizations have similar difficulty in finding loan opportunities owing to the Government having entered this field in a very extensive manner. Idle funds caused the Committee on Finance to purchase for the Fund's account \$21,000.00 in securities.

Sir Knight Emil Montanus, Chairman Committee on Correspondence in a communication reported that the Review for the Grand Encampment Knights Templar was prepared by Sir Knight Charles C. Clark, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Iowa, who is the Official Reviewer.

However nothing was said of its incorporation in the Proceedings, or of its distribution to the various Commanderies. The idea of incorporation in the Proceedings insures a distribution to the various Commanderies and the opportunity for its reading by the Sir Knights on application to the Recorder, who should have a copy accessible for such use.

SIR KNIGHT ELLIOTT C. DAVIDSON,  
St. Joseph, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT CHARLES A. CONOVER,  
Coldwater, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Jackson, June 6, 7, 8, 1939.

### MINNESOTA

Lifting the front cover of the Proceedings of the Seventy-third Annual Conclave convened in St. Paul on June 22, 1938, we are greeted

by a very fine portrait in Templar uniform of Jacob Fliegler, Right Eminent Grand Commander for the past year. On the reverse we find a group portrait of the line officers of the Grand Commandery. All Grand Officers were present.

On convening the lines were formed by Damascus Commandery No. 1 of St. Paul for the reception of the numerous distinguished visitors in attendance. Outstanding among these was Sir Knight William Leslie Sharp, Most Eminent Past Grand Master as the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master. Thirty-four Grand Representatives also answered roll call.

Sir Knight Jacob Fliegler in his Address calls attention to a net loss of one hundred eighty-seven in membership during the year. Of these we note that 100 had demitted, 88 were suspended, while 141 died. The dead closely represented the total gains during the year of 142.

Says the Grand Commander:

"A loss in membership, though small, is depressing and regrettable, but to strive for membership without seeking other accomplishments, would truly be a misconception of our mission. Unless we have left upon those with whom we have come in contact, an impress of higher ethical and moral standards, our success will have been notably restricted.

"Templar success requires that we arouse the spirit of altruism in the individual consciousness, that we keep before us an objective, both worthy and definite, one that is measured by what we do to instill those principles which underlie the entire philosophy of life taught by the Master Christian and which constitute the cornerstone of our Order. \* \* \* During my term as your Grand Commander, I received many kind and considerate invitations from other Grand Jurisdictions and from other Masonic Grand Bodies, to all of which I made courteous reply, attending as often as circumstances would permit. \* \* \* It was my pleasure and privilege to visit twenty-two Commanderies on the occasions of their Annual Inspections, and it is my regret, that, because of conflict of dates and other causes, I was unable to attend more. On special invitation, I visited 18 other Masonic Bodies and Auxiliaries. On all of these occasions I was most cordially received and accorded every courtesy and every honor due your Grand Commander."

Twenty-one dispensations were issued during the year for the purpose of receiving and balloting upon petitions at the same Stated Conclave, to attend Balls in uniform, guards of honor at Lodge Officer installations, at DeMolay meetings, and for special election and installation of officers. Three requests were declined for good reasons.

Twenty-eight of the thirty-seven Commanderies observed Christmas Day with a total attendance of 634, a reported gain of 12% over the preceding year, while the Easter Services were attended by eleven hundred fifty Sir Knights representing 20% of the membership. No mention is made of Ascension Day.

Concerning Inspections, the Grand Commander lays emphasis on their value, saying:

"While it is very desirable that the Full Form Opening be well exemplified at Inspections, I feel that it is of even greater importance to candidates and Templars in general, that the Orders be impressively conferred and to that end have this year stressed the need of exemplifying an Order at Inspection. \* \* \* There were no consolidations during the year. However, we have a few Commanderies that are practically dormant. \* \* \* Three Commanderies were awarded Badges of Merit this year in recognition of their increase in membership last year. \* \* \* Sir Knight Joseph B. Smith, Right Eminent Grand Commander, in his final report, made the following recommendation: I recommend that the Board of Instructors draw up a short charge to be given by the Commander to all newly created Knights, this charge to contain among other things, the financial obligation of the new member to the Commandery in the payment of dues. \* \* \* In compliance with these approved recommendations, the Board of Instructors drew up a Charge which was submitted to the Grand Officers and approved by them. \* \* \* In connection with the foregoing I recommend that all reference to 'financial obligations' be omitted from the Charge."

We do not find that the recommendation was adopted. \* \* \* The Grand Commander further reports:

"The need of a Hospital Building at the (Masonic) Home, is concisely expressed by Sir Knight Fred E. Jenkins, President Masonic Home Board, in his Annual Report for 1937. I quote: 'As you know, the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar has undertaken to raise money for a hospital or Infirmary. The need of such a building is becoming more and more imperative as more applicants for the Home seem to be in need of hospital treatment and care.' I recommend that the matter of instituting a campaign for the completion of the Hospital Fund be referred to the Campaign Committee Hospital Building Fund for investigation and consideration with power to act if the undertaking is found by them to be feasible and the time opportune."

This was received with favor by the Grand Commandery. Speaking of latent Masonic power the Grand Commander says:

"There is something in Masonry in its principles or tenets, which attracts to itself the best men in every community. Numbering millions in this country alone, this wonderful organization stands for, and ever seeks the realization of man's highest ideals. In this vast army of serious minded men, is a latent or potential power for the good of mankind which human ability is unable to apprehend or compute. Arouse and develop the individual Templars to an understanding of the ideals of our Order, by education and inspiration, and you will have a stabilizing force in this country such as the world has never known."

On Condition of the Order the Grand Commander reports:

"In recent years much has been said about our losses in membership. This, in itself has not been serious. In times past Masonry has sustained a far greater percentage of loss in membership than it has during recent years. It has survived many previous depressions and it will survive this one. Nevertheless, it is our duty to meet the situation and vigorously stem the tide with all the force at our command. \* \* \* The Grand Officers should never permit the Commanders of Constituent Commanderies in their respective districts to forget their obligations toward their former members. And let it be remembered that some of these former members have sons desirable Masonic timber, whose attitude toward Masonry is

liable to be affected by the action of the Fraternity toward their fathers. \* \* \* Glorious is our background. Legion is the number of outstanding Masons of former years—noble of character and great in accomplishment. The young men of today, however, are not attracted by our records of the past; they are attracted or repelled by what we, their immediate predecessors have to offer them."

Other outstanding features of the Grand Commander's Address I should like to quote, but space forbids.

The Report of Secretary of Educational Foundation is splendidly drawn, readily accessible to the eye in determining student loan operations. Thirty-nine loans have been made to students during the past year. \$7,950.54 on principal has been collected, together with \$1,921.17 in interest. During the life of the Foundation, 679 loans have been made.

From the Grand Commander's Address in reference to the Foundation he says:

"The demand for financial assistance from young men and women to enable them to finish their college education has notably lessened during the past year. \* \* \* As soon as government withdraws from this field of activity, the demand for loans, will no doubt rapidly increase."

Loan rules provide for aid to students in their junior and senior years of the regular college course. A certificate from a reputable physician is also required before the money is paid.

## REVIEW

There is no Review.

SIR KNIGHT WILLIAM E. POOR,  
Mankato, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT JOHN H. ANDERSON,  
St. Paul, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Winona, June 21-22, 1939.

## MISSISSIPPI

On April 12, 1932, it was this writer's high privilege to serve as the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Perry W. Weidner, to the Grand Commandery of Mississippi, at Natchez, and at the close of the Conclave to install the Grand Officers. Among these was William Claude Williams, as Grand Warder. At Natchez again, on May 4, 1938, this valiant young Sir Knight was installed as Grand Commander. We had a most urgent invitation to attend this Conclave, but previous commitments denied us that great pleasure. The portrait of this young Sir Knight, in full Templar uniform, adorns the Proceedings. We have a strong bond of friendship for this Grand Commandery, since we

know most of them personally. Not the least among them is Sir Knight, Mark M. Elledge, who being seriously ill at his home in Corinth, was unable to preside as Grand Commander at the Seventy-eighth Annual Conclave convened at Natchez May 4, 1938. This duty fell upon Sir Knight William Claude Williams, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, who read Grand Commander Elledge's address.

The Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, was Dominique Peter Laguens, also well known to this writer, Past Grand Commander of Louisiana, who was received with due ceremony.

Another distinguished visitor was Sir Knight John H. Cowles, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite. In responding to the welcome extended him by the Deputy Grand Commander he stated:

"I have marvelled and am proud of this great system of having two Rites that we have in this country, and which does not exist in exactly the same proportion in any other country in the world, but which does exist here, the success of which I believe, is proven by the fact that three-fourths, or practically so, of the Masons of the world are in this United States of ours."

Prayer was offered by the Acting Grand Prelate for the speedy restoration to health of the Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, and those other Sir Knights suffering from the ailments incident to human life. Following this, telegrams of sympathy were sent to the two Grand officers referred to.

The Grand Commander's address was evidently dictated from his chamber and under difficulties that would have discouraged a less resolute man. Too bad he was stricken in the midst of the discharge of his work as Grand Commander, and that the Jurisdiction was deprived of his enthusiastic administration of affairs.

Closing his report he says:

"How fine it is that the future always holds something in store, that the present is only a period of service to ourselves and our fellowmen and that our reward for a life spent in useful service lies in the great beyond, from whose bourne no traveler returns. For us who are true to the trail; I thank God, there is always a land of beyond."

From the report of the Educational Foundation we find that fifteen new loans were made during 1937. Collections during the year, interest and principal, \$5,108.73. Principal and interest due and unpaid is, \$36,079.00. Total number of loans made 156. Of notes overdue, five students cannot be located, one other note is in attorney's hands for collection. The administration of the Fund is in capable hands, and its future is bright.

The Grand Recorder in submitting his report told the Sir Knights present that he had enough of the Triennial souvenirs left to give each

of them one, and to call at his desk. Here we interpolate to say we got ours from Sir Knight Mark Elledge at Miami, and we cheerfully aver that it is more truthful than some stories we heard about summer temperatures at Miami. Just here fits in a sad story that came to me a short while ago. Sir Knight Ed. Faucette, Eminent Grand Recorder, died on August 10, 1938. And so another true and valiant Knight has sheathed his sword. Another true friend has gone on ahead.

From the Most Eminent Grand Master's Representative Sir Knight Laguens's address I quote briefly as follows:

"Whether we care to admit it or not, the membership in a higher body in Masonry, and even Masonry itself can be considered somewhat of a luxury, because, when a man's table is empty and he finds need for shoes and clothes and food for his family, he cannot maintain luxuries. \* \* \* We cannot expect a man to be interested in us if we are not interested in him. \* \* \* When a man is knighted in a Commandery and signs the by-laws and you let him get away from you and have nothing more to say to him or do with him, you have lost your contact and you have practically lost a member. \* \* \* There are many other things a man is called upon to do, and if we would impress upon him the Christian ideals that are presented to him at our triangle when he is knighted, if we will appoint committees to keep in contact with these members throughout the years of their membership, if we will give them something to do almost immediately on their being knighted, no matter how small the task might be, we have established that personal contact with him and we will keep him interested, and perhaps keep him as a member until such time as, of course, through circumstances, he is able to carry on himself."

The Aide to the Grand Master's Representative was then asked to speak. He mentioned the fact that Indivisible Friends Commandery No. 1, of Louisiana, is the oldest Commandery in the United States. I think we were Chartered from the old country in 1816. \* \* \* Indivisible Friends Commandery is still the holder of the Traveling Beauchant, for fourteen years. We still have a resolution on our books whereby we request or demand that any other Commandery receiving the Beauchant pay the expenses of an escort of twenty Sir Knights. Here we again pause to say that Indivisible Friends are just now circularizing Commanderies throughout the south in an effort to get it going home to Cyrene Commandery No. 29, Toronto, Canada.

Sir Knight Mathis says further:

"I believe my Commandery would entertain an invitation from any Commandery in Mississippi to deliver that Beauchant to them free of charge, with the understanding that they would pass it on to some other Commandery on north. \* \* \* You may have some special occasion that may attract some candidates for you."

#### REVIEW

The Review, as for some time past, is by that experienced thumb-nail sketch artist, Horace L. Villee. We note he has been limited to

twenty-five pages at \$2.00 per page. We note that in several instances he gets three State reviews to the page.

SIR KNIGHT WILLIAM CLAUDE WILLIAMS,  
Brookhaven, Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT SID F. CURTIS,  
Meridian, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Jackson, Date to be determined.

## MISSOURI

As we open the Proceedings of this active Grand Commandery, which convened in its Seventy-seventh Annual Conclave May 18, 1938, in Jefferson City, Missouri's capital city, we are greeted by the handsome countenance of James A. Kinder, neatly arrayed in civilian attire, and who, we discover by further reference to the Proceedings, to be the Right Eminent Grand Commander. We regret the absence of the uniform!

On Tuesday, May 17, Divine Services were held in the Christian Church, under the direction of the Reverend Sir Knight Z. M. Williams, Eminent Grand Prelate. His text, "And Pilate wrote a title and put it on the Cross." Said he in part:

"The cross is the symbol of our Christian Knighthood. For what does it stand? It stands for violated law and for death, the penalty of Golgotha, the place of a skull, where men went once to die. \* \* \* The world's history is held within the cross of Calvary. The cross sweeps the whole gamut of human life, revealing the transactions of human history in its relation to God, the Supreme Architect of the universe, as He brings Himself within the radius of human experience, through the person of His Son, the great Captain of our salvation. \* \* \* Christian Knighthood means the enthronement of the ideals and principles of Jesus in the life. We must, to be true followers of our Captain, possess His spirit, whose life was an exposition of the great truths He gave to the world. Paul said, 'For me, to live is Christ.' \* \* \* If Christ possesses our lives we may differ as to our beliefs in many respects, yet underneath all of our surface differences we are united in Christ and move forward under His command. \* \* \* If the whys of man could be answered by him, the mysteries of life would fade into knowledge, the incentive to thought would be arrested and all of man's goals would have been reached.

"We find the wisdom of God displayed in the fact that human life is wrapped in mystery, and hence the outreach of human possibility. Change is the order of the universe, and the goals and ideals of man furnish the incentives to move forward and the world moves on. \* \* \* 'Character is the end sought in the realm of human life.' Christ came to give us the standard by which character can be developed. His perfect humanity is the norm by which we can secure the development of our characters. Jesus has not only given us the model but has taught us the principles by which we can control our lives. He also furnishes us the power by which we may apply the yard measure principles to our lives.

"The cross and the crown go together. If the first be borne the latter will be worn. \* \* \* The cross is the symbol of victory over evil in

human experience, over the enemies that invade the sacred precincts of personality. Paul was master of himself because he had been mastered by the Christ. His experience in jails was the source of those letters written to churches and individuals. The material cross is the symbol of spiritual reality. \* \* \* On one side of the cross we have human sin with all the havoc it has wrought in the life of the world. The cross stands between the cradle and the grave, between the manger and the tomb. It swings out its red light the signal of danger. Stop and you are safe. Rush on and ruin awaits you."

Much more I would like to quote of this stirring address, but space forbids.

At the convening of the Grand Commandery all the Grand Officers answered roll call. Many distinguished visitors were then introduced. Last but not least was Sir Knight Walter Stover, Right Eminent Grand Standard Bearer of the Grand Encampment. Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master. All Past Grand Commanders were reported present with the exception of two.

From the Grand Commander's address:

"Another year finds our numbers diminished still further. We will never find a sudden magic by which we will rise to great numbers as we once saw a decade ago. We will not find one to lead us into an era of large classes where two and three triangles are needed to expedite the Knightings. Those conditions cannot be created by us, but follow only as an incident to general financial and commercial conditions of the country. But we can still attract the favorable attention of good Freemasons to this Christian Order by our lives among men; \* \* \* by our sympathy and understanding of our duties as Knights Templar and by answering the commands of Him under whose banner we are enlisted. To these things, Sir Knights, let us this day resolve to renew and fortify our resolutions, pledges and vows."

He notes that:

"In addition to this Past Grand Commander, (William Sherman Campbell), 229 others of our Christian Knights answered the summons of the angel of death."

Seven dispensations were issued during the year. Three to receive and ballot on petitions at the Stated Conclave. Two for special elections to fill line vacancies. Two for appearances in full uniform at laying of cornerstones. Decisions called for were few, and were answerable by reference to the by-laws.

Competitive drills have also engaged the attention of the Grand Commander, who finds that competitive drills are becoming more popular with the Commanderies. This is very interesting. Its full development means much in the life and experience of the particular Commandery. Military drill exercises are healthful and attractive, and will lead many young Masons to seek membership as an outlet for their youthful energy. Drilling confers grace in body movement and carriage, adds personality and poise, and creates confidence in one's self, as well as teaching proper subordination to constituted authority.

The Grand Commander also finds his corps of Inspectors have sufficient interest in their assigned duty to act as instructors to Commanderies appreciating their need of instruction in Ritual and Tactics. It is interesting to note that inspections in Missouri are on a voluntary rather than a mandatory basis.

On condition of the Order the Grand Commander says:

"While there is no cause for discouragement on account of our condition and progress during the past year, we have not yet started on the upward trend so far as numbers are concerned. \* \* \* Careful management and enthusiastic, devoted leadership on the part of those in charge of the Commanderies in Missouri, will do much toward stopping our losses. I am convinced that every Commandery in Missouri would show a gain and attract the attention of those eligible to petition, if all Commanderies would become active, useful, working organizations, opening their Commanderies in full form and rehearsing frequently, keeping their Commanderies live, going institutions. \* \* \* Certainly the present conditions should challenge the very best faith and hard work of every set of officers in the Commanderies."

The Grand Commander finds that Missouri is third in the list in the number of students assisted with loans. That the Fund has made an enviable record for its businesslike administration throughout its existence. The resignation of Fund's Secretary from the time of the inception of the Fund to the present year, is a distinct loss to this work.

The Grand Commander reports the saving the surrender of a Charter probable, due in a great part to the witnessing by the Commander, Recorder and a number of the Sir Knights of the lethargic Commandery visiting a neighboring Commandery which conferred the Order of Malta in full form. The writer being the Prior of the local Malta cast, composed of Past Commanders of Memphis, can fully appreciate the import of this life-saving visit. The emphasis laid on the Christian Religion in this beautiful and impressive Order makes it eminently desirable that no petitioner should be deprived of its stimulus.

The Grand Commander took positive action with a Commandery on which his delegated representative reported that:

"He was convinced that there had been serious violation of our laws with reference to the fees for the Orders, and the provision that each candidate shall be supplied with a uniform."

An examination of this Commandery's records revealed:

"They had carried on a practice of receiving petitions and Knighting candidates without even a gesture toward the collection of any sum of money, either for the Orders or for the purpose of supplying uniforms. On February 2, I issued an order to this Commandery as follows."

The order instructed immediate action to collect outstanding fees, and to require each such Knight to pay, in addition to the fee, a sum sufficient to purchase a standard uniform. Failing in this such Knight to be suspended until he does comply. Failure on the part of the Commandery

to comply carried the penalty of arrest of Charter. Result—thirty-three Knights were suspended, three met the requirements. It is comforting to find Grand Commanders who will not wink at violations of fundamental laws of our Order, but will call sharply to task such violators.

The Grand Commander's visits to the Grand Commanderies of Iowa and Illinois were sources of great pleasure and inspiration to him. As a visitor to Commanderies of Missouri, and to other Masonic bodies of the State the Grand Commander displayed considerable activity.

The Committee on Grand Commander's Address close as follows:

"We congratulate the Grand Commandery of Missouri upon the personality of its Grand Commander. His integrity and courage are clearly reflected in the acts of his administration. He has held to highest standard of the faith that is in him, and with a thrill of pride we review his accomplishments."

Well merited commendation.

The Report of the Committee on Finance in closing their report say:

"Words of caution are frequently soon forgotten, but this committee again dares to remind the Grand Commandery that expenses continue to exceed income. Financial disaster will follow unless extreme economy is practiced."

A word to the wise should do.

At this juncture the Personal Representative of the Grand Master, Sir Knight Walter Stover, addressed the Grand Commandery. I quote in part:

"Sir Knights, I enjoyed the very inspiring and eloquent address of your Grand Commander. I like the two-fisted way that Jim Kinder said to the violator of the law, 'You are either going to do your duty or I am going to remove you.' When the man who is charged with the executive management of an institution has the intestinal fortitude to require that the law be obeyed, an institution runs. When he pussyfoots and panders to lesser elements, the institution falls into decay. It is so with fraternalism as it is with government. \* \* \* The Grand Master has asked me to say to you that Masonry in North America has been for several years losing membership. He calls attention to the fact that many reasons are offered for the loss, and that human nature leads us to attribute it to financial conditions and what not. But he says that we ourselves are responsible for each of our difficulties. He calls attention to the fact that people are not interested in any organization which is not interested in them, and the Commanderies neglect to exhibit sufficient interest in them and do not do enough for them to keep them interested; that many times too little attention is given to the social side of the Order, that meetings to promote fraternalism are not held."

The address was listened to with great interest.

Missouri was well represented at the Miami Triennial, so reports the Triennial Committee. The famous Missouri breakfast functioned perfectly, at a cost of \$273.50, one hundred forty-four persons participating.

The report of Educational Foundation discloses that in the fifteen years the Foundation has been in operation, \$350,135.75 has been advanced to Missouri students. But \$4,835.52 has been charged off for bad debts. A percentage of 0.014 on each dollar loaned.

The practice of meeting in the Commandery Asylum Christmas morning seems to have fallen into general disuse in Missouri. However, the Christmas spirit was active in deeds of charity and pure benevolence. Easter was well observed by attendance at church services on the part of most Commanderies.

The Committee on Returns of Commanderies present an exhaustive report, and well classified. Careful perusal of it by Commandery Recorders should enable them to get in class "A" or "B" depending on whether they are typists or penmen, and thus be above reproach. Two items in particular invite notice. Of 63 Commanderies, 13 have no members without uniforms. May their tribe rapidly increase. Six Commanderies report they have no uncollected dues. May their tribe also increase rapidly.

#### REVIEW

Frater Denslow shows no sign of nerve and pep and perspicuity diminution in his work as Reviewer. Some years ago a Reviewer referred to his reviewing as "Tropical." Under the caption "Dues and Fees" he reasons well:

"We don't believe in cheapening our Masonry, not even during depressions, recessions, or whatever you may choose to call what we are passing through these days. Yet with the reduction in the number of candidates many Commanderies would reduce their Knighting fees, and thereby weaken their Commandery in a small town, but by reason of the saving of a large part of the fees during the prosperous years, this Commandery has been able to carry out its duties as a Christian Order and render relief to many of its members in financial distress, as well as to offer the advantages of fellowship and entertainment within the doors of its Asylum. \* \* \* What we have to say about fees might well be said of dues, and those Commanderies which collect only sufficient to pay the annual per capita tax are headed for financial rocks."

Behold a Commandery with the true vision of the reason for its existence! Many who spent their substance in riotous living in the palmy days are now repenting in sackcloth and ashes.

SIR KNIGHT LEO H. JOHNSON,  
Neosho, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT RAY V. DENSLow,  
Trenton, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Springfield, May, 1939, date to be announced.

#### MONTANA

A thoughtful, bright-eyed face greets us as we open the book of Proceedings of this State of plain and mountain ranges, peopled with pioneers, whose territory was first visited by adventurous explorers from Spain, who found the country inhabited by native peoples of a race denominated as Indian. It was to this State of magnificent distances that Morris Downs Rowland, of the pleasing face, referred to in the opening line, after studies in the University of Iowa, and graduate of the law school of Yale University in 1908, followed the urge of the time came to Lobby, Montana, where he settled down to the practice of law. He comes of a fine ancestry. He has proved himself an asset to the State of his adoption. We feel reasonably sure that somewhere there is a Templar uniform which he wears on occasion. He should have been caught in it for this exposure. Among his fellows he is known as "a real man among men; there is no guile or chicanery about him; he is most honorable and upright in all his dealings; \* \* \* he is affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church."

The Fifty-first Annual Conclave convened in Dillon, June 8, 1938, immediately following the Service of Public Worship at Grace Methodist Episcopal Church. On roll call it was found that a constitutional number was present, each Grand Officer with the exception of the Grand Captain of the Guard being present.

The Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, in the person of Sir Knight William Wallin, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Idaho, being announced in waiting, was duly received with an escort of Past Grand Commanders and escorted to the East and tendered Command of the Grand Commandery. Expressing his deep appreciation of the honor tendered, he requested the Grand Commander to proceed with the business of the Conclave. It was our great pleasure to journey and converse with Sir Knight Wallin on the subject of the administration of the Educational Foundation when returning from San Francisco in 1934. We hold him in high esteem. We note with interest he is still the Chairman of the Idaho Foundation.

The Grand Commander, Sir Knight Morris Downs Rowland, opens his address with the customary reference to his arrival in the Templar East a year ago, the consciousness of his shortcomings, and leaving the verdict with the Conclave. Due respect is paid to the passing of the Knightly dead. The Grand Commander reports that Christmas was generally and fittingly observed by the Commanderies in this Jurisdiction.

It is noted with pleasure that Ascension day was fittingly observed. I quote the Grand Commander:

"On April 18, I issued the customary call to the Constituent Commanderies to attend Divine Services on Ascension Sunday. From the reports received I think this year has seen more attention paid to a proper observance of this day which means so much to the Order."

No mention is made of Easter Observance.

Of the Miami Triennial reports:

"Arriving at Miami on Saturday evening and after getting settled in our rooms at the Columbus Hotel, we proceeded to enjoy the hospitality provided by the Sir Knights and citizens of Miami. The attendance was not as large as expected and this was on account of the extreme heat which affected those from the Western States a great deal."

Eighteen Commanderies cordially welcomed the Grand Commander on his official visitations in the Jurisdiction. Numerous invitations were also received from other Jurisdictions to attend their annual Conclaves. He was unable to accept any of them. Referring to the Fiftieth Anniversary of the institution of the Grand Commandery the Grand Commander says:

"For fifty years this Grand Commandery, which was established upon a firm and sound foundation, has kept the brilliant lights of its beacons shining in the cause of honor, truth and justice. And all through these years it has been dispensing true Templar light and knowledge and has been one of the principal factors in the development and making this wonderful State what it is today, and at this Conclave we will celebrate the constitutional organization of this great Christian Order of Knighthood in the State of Montana."

He recommends the creation of a Committee similar to one adopted by the Grand Commandery of California, known as Committee on Policy and General Purposes of the Order, which keeps in mind the general purposes of our great Order and also the policies. At one time it will be dealing with Christmas Observance or Easter programs, another time it is dealing with the attitude toward churches and other matters of public interest; again we find it making recommendations as to appearances of our Knights Templar in public, etc. This is found to be a most useful committee in California Templary.

He then broaches the question of the publication of the full Templar membership in the Annual Proceedings. Financial considerations of 1937 caused the Grand Commandery to suspend publication of the roster in the Proceedings of that year. Says the Grand Commander:

"And while the exigencies of the particular time justified it, my experience and study of the reports of other jurisdictions has convinced me that it is a question that should be approached with great caution before we establish a definite rule. There is no other place or way where the various ordinary Knights Templar of the State can have their names in print associated with our Order or a record made that is accessible to the PUBLIC. There is no other way where a Knight Templar's family or those who come after him can check up definitely and easily to find out if the decedent was a member of the Order, except where the printed Proceedings carry the roster of a Commandery. \* \* \* I rather think it would cheapen us and lower our standards to adopt a definite practice of never printing a full roster of the fine men in Montana who are members of our Order. Nevertheless, our financial condition must be considered. We cannot tell what it may be in the future—it may be better, or it may be worse."

Waiving on the proposition he proposes publication alternate years, then Triennial years, "I think we can afford to print them once in three years."

This Reviewer asks the privilege of commenting on the roster publication question. The lay Sir Knight's access to the roster would be through the copy sent the Recorder of his Commandery. The Recorder would know without reference to the copy of the Proceedings whether the person asked about was a member in good standing in the Commandery. The Grand Recorder would let the Recorder know by return mail concerning the membership within the State and would by reference to the index record furnish data aside from just his name, which would be shown in the roster found in the Proceedings. Outside the State little could be done to establish membership unless some data was in the hands of relatives, and with this the roster would not have to be referred to. Rarely would a Sir Knight in good standing be without his receipt for dues or a life membership card. It has long been our humble opinion that roster membership publication in Proceedings is just a donation to the printer of the Proceedings, and helps make the Proceedings a volume, when a pamphlet would suffice. Far better in its place is a review by a competent writer of the Grand Commandery, or, if economy demands, use the Grand Encampment Review at fourteen cents per copy and incorporate it with the Proceedings, as a number of Jurisdictions are now doing, and so give the inquiring lay Sir Knight a bird's-eye-view of the doings of his fellows throughout the United States, and the rest of the Templar world and so broaden his view and increase his interest as he is made conscious of the great co-ordinated effort to spread the gospel of Templary and raise the men of the United States to the joy of living on a higher level, keeping them fully conscious of those sacred rights of political liberty, and freedom to worship God in his sanctuaries, to wield the sword if need be in the cause of pure and undefiled religion, and the protection of civil liberty.

Our great Order needs inspiration, it is best obtained through information and example, followed by personal practice of its teachings. Reading the report of the Committee on Finance we are led to conclude that dropping the roster resulted in a saving of \$63.00 last year.

The report of Educational Foundation Committee is presented at length and in interesting detail. Summarizing we find that since organization 336 loans have been made, 150 paid in full, only 4 written off, and that during 1937 repayments have increased 38% over the previous year. Something to write home about. Twenty new loans were made during the year. We quote from the Committee's report:

"In conclusion we would state: (1) That your committee has endeavored to work in perfect harmony with the Knights Templar Educational Foundation Committee of the Grand Encampment, and we believe this practice should be continued. While the State may operate as an independent unit in the way of making its loans, the general supervision should remain in the Grand Encampment."

We cannot refrain from extending hearty congratulations to this committee on its most comprehensive report as well as the fine spirit in which it is written, and its expression of loyalty to the Grand Encampment.

"I will not say he's dead, but just away!" Fifteen pages are devoted to portraits and eulogy of those Knights of the Cross who have sheathed their swords and crossed over to the other side and have claimed the promise of our Captain, "I go to prepare a place for you, that where I am there ye may be also, \* \* \* If it were not so I would have told you!" This life is a great adventure. The next an immortal climax. And so we close the review of this Proceedings.

#### REVIEW

There is no Review.

SIR KNIGHT CHANNELL A. MCKENZIE,  
Bozeman, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT FRANCIS D. JONES,  
Helena, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, place and date to be announced.

#### NEBRASKA

Clarence Orlo Dawson, the retiring Grand Commander, occupies page one of the Proceedings, this space being allotted to his biographer to announce his genealogy and lay before Templary his early experiences from the covered wagon trip, Michigan to Iowa, on the part of his father's parents; his entry into the grain business, thence into banking and the brick and tile industry in Iowa, thence a migratory journey along the Pacific Coast; then the yearning for the plains of his youth drew him to Nebraska and the purchase of the Blair Canning Company, where a lot of Nebraska's sweet corn was canned and distributed to the corn loving public. In his social life he proved himself an ardent Mason. The portrait accompanying the sketch was evidently taken as a Master Canner, since he appears in civilian garb. For all that, as we study his features, we are impressed with the expression of determination, the will to do the thing he sets his mind to accomplish. From the "Prae-ludium" we clip this:

"Mt. Tabor Commandery No. 9, Knights Templar, of Fremont, and Jordan Commandery No. 15, Knights Templar of Blair, were joint hosts to the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Nebraska, on April 20-22, on the occasion of its Sixty-sixth Annual Conclave. The reason that these two Commanderies combined in this particular case was that Jordan Commandery No. 15, felt its inability to properly entertain the Grand Commandery and because Sir Knight Clarence O. Dawson, Right Eminent Grand Commander, was a member of that Commandery and the members

felt they wanted to share in the entertainment of the Grand Commandery. \* \* \* The joint entertainment was an evidence of the respect and high esteem in which the Right Eminent Grand Commander was held."

On April 20 the Past Commander's Association held their second annual banquet. Following this the Knights Templar and a large number of citizens of Fremont assembled in the new Fremont auditorium for Divine Service, under the direction of Sir Knight and Right Reverend George Allen Beecher, Bishop of Western Nebraska, and Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. It was a stirring call to arms to Christian Knighthood. Competitive drills were held on Thursday afternoon, April 21, in which four drill corps participated. A full form opening of a Commandery competition was also held during the afternoon, in which four Commanderies contested. This event taxed the Asylum to its full capacity. The Grand Commandery Banquet occurred at 7:00 p. m. April 21, at the Pathfinder Hotel, and was so well attended that two dining rooms were used.

Following the Banquet, Most Eminent Grand Master Mark Norris delivered an inspiring address which was enthusiastically received, then followed the dance which continued until the "wee small" hours, and proved a most delightful occasion. The ladies were delightfully entertained by a Committee of the Eastern Star Chapters of Blair and Fremont. The only cloud on the horizon was the unavoidable absence of Sir Knight Clarence Orlo Dawson, Right Eminent Grand Commander, from the Conclave.

The Grand Commandery was convened in Annual Conclave in Fremont at 9:10 a. m. April 21. All officers with the exception of the Grand Commander and Grand Prelate were present. Twenty-seven of the twenty-nine Commanderies reported one or more representatives. Many distinguished guests were duly received. Outstanding among them was the Most Eminent Grand Master. Thirty-three Grand Representatives of other Grand Jurisdictions also answered roll call and were duly welcomed and requested to convey the best wishes of the Grand Commandery of Nebraska to their several Jurisdictions.

On request of the Deputy Grand Commander the Grand Commander's address was read by the Grand Captain General. It is a most interesting and extended report, showing that the absent Grand Commander had the welfare and upbuilding of Templary close to his heart and much on his mind. From his opening I quote:

"When you return to your homes, may it be with the feeling that we, like yourselves, are endeavoring to cement the cordial relationship of Templars everywhere, doing our utmost to keep sacred the tenets of our Order, and to build a stronger, more united brotherhood, standing squarely for the Home, our Country, and Christianity."

But two dispensations, they of a routine nature were requested. No decisions were called for. The York Rite Festival idea has taken root

in Nebraska. Much interest is being developed. Its objective is to link their several interests so that proper contacts may be actively maintained with each body and with the new members each body accepts, and so carry them on through the York Rite. This is a most worthy effort. Doubtless it will bring many who might not otherwise offer themselves in to our great Christian Order, and so more emphasis on Christian ideals.

The Grand Commander warmly compliments the productive effort of Instructor-Inspector-General, Sir Knight Theodore J. Kerr, Eminent Grand Warder, in saying that "almost single-handed, has accomplished great good."

But seven official visitations were made by the Grand Commander before leaving the Jurisdiction. One of these was Mt. Carmel No. 3, of Auburn, with an enrollment as of December 31, 1937, of 46, two of whom were Knighted during the year. Yet this Commandery in competition drill at the Annual Conclave presented a class A drill team, and walked off with first prize, commanded by Sir Knight Fred C. Malony, Eminent Grand Sword Bearer of the Grand Commandery. Of him and his command the Grand Commander in his address says:

"Here is an outstanding instance of what a small Commandery is capable of doing. By hard conscientious work, and keeping everlastingly at it, Fred has brought this Commandery to a high degree of proficiency with a very small membership. \* \* \* All power to you Fred."

This represents the highest type of leadership, and is the outstanding instance thus far in our review. We have no doubt but that they are equally as proficient in rendition of Ritual and Asylum Tactics. In addition the Grand Commander made six interstate visits, which he reports interestingly and at length.

Of the Triennial Conclave at Miami, the Grand Commander joins in the chorus of other Jurisdictions in the song of the heat, but adds:

"The Florida hosts were very lavish in their hospitality and entertainment, and gifts of Florida products to the Grand Representatives."

On Condition of the Order in Nebraska he reports:

"There is little doubt that Templary in Nebraska shows marked improvement in about one-third of our Commanderies the past year; another third are just about holding their own, and the remaining third are far from satisfactory. \* \* \* We again show a net loss of 98 members, the smallest net loss since 1929, and 51% less than the 191 reported last year."

He asks, "Has Templary failed?" His dissertation on this question occupies some thirteen pages, contains much of interest and practical suggestion. Space permits me to touch only the highlights briefly:

"It seems to me that our trouble is that our understanding and practice of Templary is too narrow, too circumscribed. Too many Sir Knights are content to think of our Institution as just another fraternity,

whose main business is the conferring of Orders, the cultivation of good fellowship, and the distribution of a small amount of material charity. While good ritualistic work, with a dignified military bearing, good fellowship and benevolence are very necessary, they are simply the means of portraying the spiritual lessons and cultivating the real purposes of our Order.

"During the period of hectic prosperity, the world lost all sight of the ideals upon which society and cultivation are founded, and entered into the mad rush for material gain and power. Even we became so hypnotized by our rapidly mounting membership figures that we failed in our most important duty—to see that our asylums were duly guarded, and many slipped through our carelessly guarded doors who never should have been admitted. Many were attracted to us because of our selective membership and the desire to be associated with us in good fellowship, but when this side of our activities became challenged by so many service clubs, country clubs, and like organizations, the more alluring features and attractions they offered caused many to leave our ranks.

"Maybe it is a purging we sorely needed to awaken us to our responsibilities. \* \* \* I do assert that when a Sir Knight voluntarily drops his membership in his Commandery, it is not because Templary has failed, it is because he has failed Templary. The strength of Templary is not in the number of its members, nor in its wealth. Quantity is not a yard stick to measure the value of Templary. Quality is the only measure, and even quality is more easily appraised than measured. The strength of Templary lies in its spiritual possessions; those fundamental principles, timeless ideals, and sacred truths, which are the foundation of our Order, and are the basis of all humane civilization, to be molded deep in character, that solid substance of genuine manhood, which causes one to aspire to the higher qualities of life and constantly strive for their attainment.

"The test of Templary should not be only to help ourselves or our membership, but to help others. It cannot be confined to our own front door. It is not something that we put on now and then, as we do our uniforms on Templar occasions, to be forgotten when we resume our business and social relations; it must be lived in our daily lives as well as in our Asylums! It must be true in action as well as in creed. Until mankind frankly, sincerely and wholeheartedly adopts the principles upon which our Order is founded as its social and political objectives; until the Truths taught and exemplified by the 'Lowly Nazarene' are adopted as the working program of statesmanship and social progress.

"Templary in Nebraska, and everywhere, is sorely needed to help carry on these high standards, and because of that need, the future of Templary is assured. No, Sir Knights, Templary has not failed, and because true Christianity and the true practice of the Christian virtues can never fail, true Templary can never fail. \* \* \* Propaganda, with all the modern instruments for acquiring and disseminating it and under the guise of new knowledge and new ideas, has transformed the world from a home-loving, God-fearing people, into a jazz-minded, and pleasure mad materialistic world of selfish ambitions for personal glory and power, rushing from one fad or 'ism' to another, prey for all the 'cults' and vultures of society, until it has produced instability in conscience and morals; what was revolting and intolerable to moral conscience yesterday, is today accepted and approved as the modern standard of thought and action. \* \* \* The bond of fraternity does not change. The need of friends and friendship has always existed, and Christ's commandment, 'Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.' is one of the corner stones of our Order.

"If our democracy is to be saved from disaster, fraternity will play an important part in its salvation. \* \* \* The ideals of Christ's truth are inculcated in our Order and we must preserve them, and make them mean more in all we do, for the need is greater today than ever before. \* \* \* Let us rededicate ourselves to His cause and go forward to reclaim our own Sir Knights who have drifted away from His influence, to bring worthy companions as pilgrim warriors to His side, and with reverence and penitence take our places before God and man in assisting a needy age in this changing world. \* \* \* Necessity calls upon all Christian Masons and Templars to stand with all their strength and fearlessness in defense of the very life principles of our Christian civilization.

"To wield our swords in defense of the Christian religion is no ordinary declaration these days, when that religion is being attacked by nations who are trying to get along without it, and by so-called higher intellectuals, in our own land, who tell us that we have no further need of it, and who are enlisting many converts to their doctrine. \* \* \* Sir Knights, the privilege of our existence can be secure only by our active efforts, as Templars and citizens, in the preservation of those rights under which we have existed. \* \* \* Modern times must be met with modern methods.

"The officers and members of every Constituent Commandery should be kept informed of the doings of the Grand Officers, and should receive all information for building up our organization. Grand Officers should become informed of the activities of the Grand Encampment and of our sister Grand Jurisdictions. At present the only service of this kind is furnished by the committee on the 'Review of Templar Proceedings' included in our annual Proceedings \* \* \* I believe these reviews are absolutely necessary and should be continued. \* \* \* Even within our own ranks, there is a great need of education concerning the spiritual force and beauty of the Orders. Our greatest enemy to growth is that there are too many other things to take up the time and attention of our members."

Here I must revert to further events of this interesting Conclave. The report of the Committee on Educational Foundation is one of the best prepared reports to come to my hands. Not long drawn out but fully comprehensive. Loans are made to young men and women, actual residents of Nebraska who are in their senior year of a regular course in a recognized college or university. The maximum is \$200.00. Loans are made on honor only. During the past three years, fewer applications were made for loans, due to the fact, to some extent at least, the Federal Government provided relief for worthy students in college. The inactive funds were invested in government securities to the extent of \$11,000.00, which are readily cashed. During the calendar year 1937, nine loans were granted.\* During the same period twenty-nine loans were completed by payment in full. Payments were also received on many dormant loans as well as on current obligations. The committee reports collections have been good despite the depression, which leads them to believe that debtors are doing their utmost to liquidate. By comparison, they say Nebraska ranks with the best.

Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master, addressed the Grand Commandery at length in an impressive and inspiring manner. His address was not reported so we are denied the pleasure of quoting from it.

## REVIEW

The well written Review is as usual by Sir Knight Marley. Speaking of Templar troubles he says:

"After all, when affairs run too smoothly, there is apt to be an apathy which forebodes stagnation. \* \* \* If a Commander does not take a personal interest in his men; does not look out for their comfort and well being at all times when humanly possible, it is certain he will not get out of them when occasion requires the sustained, whole-hearted support the Commander who does those things receives, though the going may be tough and rocky. \* \* \* We pride ourselves on belonging to a magnanimous Order; we have built up a Fund of better than three million dollars, a large part of which came from Knights we have suspended, to loan at interest to students who in many instances did not and do not appreciate it, and who had no connection with members of our Order. \* \* \* No fund has been created (though the money is available) to help 'the poor and weary pilgrim.' A sad commentary to say the least."

Sir Knight Marley's thumbnail reviews of the various Jurisdictions consist of well chosen items. Where the proceedings were low on highlights they are justly brief.

SIR KNIGHT ANDREW COSH,  
Grand Island, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT LEWIS E. SMITH,  
Omaha, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Grand Island, April 20-21, 1939.

## NEVADA

Nevada, the State of open spaces and magnificent distances, and one of five that has twice as many Senators as it has Congressmen.

The Twentieth Annual Conclave was convened in Winnemucca, on June 6, 1938, with all Grand Officers present except the Grand Generalissimo, who was detained by illness in his family. Sir Knight Howard P. Kirtley, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Utah, and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., Merwyn H. Brown, Most Worshipful Grand Master, Free & Accepted Masons of Nevada, Walter J. Harris, Most Eminent Grand High Priest, Royal Arch Masons, of Nevada, and numerous other distinguished visitors were accorded a formal reception into the Asylum. Eighteen Grand Jurisdictions were represented by their Grand Representatives. Unusual we believe, but apparently true, some members held Commissions from two Grand Jurisdictions.

The Grand Commander, Sir Knight Walter S. Macpherson, presented a condensed address. His opening indicates a mind under deep conviction of the existence of an ever watchful God, and of His mercy toward man. I quote briefly:

"We have gathered together the past year at many festive and joyous occasions; have also had a few valley experiences, where it seemed as if the sun had hidden itself behind the clouds for a season; but out of all our experiences our Heavenly Father has brought us into the clear sunshine, and we, as Knights Templar, believe we are ever guided by the unseen hand, and that the eye of God is ever watching o'er us. Then let us, Sir Knights, be truly grateful for all He has done for us, and let us strive to carry out the lessons taught us by the principles of our beloved Order, in such a manner as to merit the Divine approval. We are strengthened as men and as Sir Knights in these Annual Conclaves, and gather fresh inspiration for better work in our various Commanderies. Let us then, as we shall soon take up the work of this Conclave, be careful and deliberate in our actions, and be guided by our love for this Fraternity and for each other, remembering that our deliberations here are for the safeguarding of our Grand Commandery and for the widening of its influence throughout this Jurisdiction."

Under the caption Necrology he says:

"The Great Light upon our Altar gives us the assurance that all is not dark beyond the tomb and we mourn not as those without hope, believing that those whom we love have waked to a fuller life above."

He reports a general observance of Christmas, but nothing is said of Easter and Ascension Days. While such observance is not obligatory by law, yet as adherents of our Most Blessed Lord, we should never fail to honor those memorable days of His earthly experience, when, without a place He could call home He spent His days "going about doing good," healing the sick, restoring sight to the blind, hope to the despairing, and healing broken hearts by restoring their loved ones to them, and leaving to us, his sworn followers, the open gate to that more abundant life. Remember the story of the ten lepers, Luke 17:11. "Ten He healed, but one returned to give thanks, he a Samaritan. There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. \* \* \* And he said unto his disciples, The days will come, when ye shall desire to see one of the days of the Son of man, and ye shall not see it."

Of the Grand Commander's visitations to the various Commanderies of his Jurisdiction he reports great interest prevailing, and that work is being done in most Commanderies in a most commendable manner. Having at this writing reviewed some thirty-six other proceedings this is the first one in which an increase is reported, seven being the number. True it is small, but it is a gain! And this Grand Commander is portrayed in full uniform and effectively adorns the frontispiece of the Proceedings.

From the report of the Committee on Educational Foundation we gather that seven new loans were made during the year. Payments on principal were \$360.00, on interest, \$90.00. Student loans now outstanding \$3,274.85, accrued interest, \$525.80. No comment appears in the report as to payment activity.

#### REVIEW

There is no Review, nor any mention of the use of the Official Review of the Grand Encampment.

SIR KNIGHT GEORGE B. RUSSELL,  
Carson City, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT EDWARD C. PETERSON,  
Carson City, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Sparks, Nevada, June 5, 1939.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE

As we open the book of the Proceedings of the Grand Commandery of New Hampshire, convened October 4, 1938, in Laconia, we are greeted by the incoming Right Eminent Grand Commander in full Templar uniform, Sir Knight Willis N. Rugg.

After prayer by the Eminent Grand Prelate, the Ninety-first Annual Conclave was convened by order of Sir Knight Oscar J. George, Right Eminent Grand Commander. All Grand Officers were present, together with ten Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders, and a constitutional number of the Representatives of the eleven Commanderies; in fact, all were represented. Twenty-four Grand Representatives of Sister Jurisdictions also reported present. And then the Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander retired and introduced Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., who was received by the Grand Commander with all the ceremony due his station.

And then the Grand Commander addresses the Conclave:

"It is with pleasure that I extend to each Sir Knight and to our distinguished guests, a cordial welcome. This is our Ninety-first Annual Conclave, and during nearly a century we have been honored but few times by a visit from the Grand Master, so we doubly appreciate his presence here today."

He refers to the passing of three members of the Grand Commandery who have passed on during the year:

"Let us stand for a few moments, with bowed heads, in loving memory of our beloved fraters and offer a silent prayer that we may worthily carry on the work that they have left us."

Under "Inspections" the Grand Commander is pleased to report that during the year he was able to visit all the eleven Commanderies of the State. He was gratified to report that an increased attendance was noted at practically all the inspections. He further notes that he was able to make fraternal visits to the Grand Jurisdictions of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, New Jersey, Connecticut, Maine and Vermont, where in each case he was the recipient of full Knightly courtesy.

Among the several dispensations issued for Templar action one was for an escort to appear in full Templar uniform from Mt. Horeb Com-

mandery at the installation of Sir Knight William B. Ranney, Past Eminent Commander, as Worthy Patron of the Eastern Star at Penacook, N. H. Another was for Athol Commandery No. 37, of Athol, Mass., to hold a semi-public installation of its officers at the home of its Eminent Commander, Howard T. Judd, at Winchester, N. H., on June 15, by Sir Knight William S. Hamilton, Past Grand Commander, of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Under the head of "Membership" the Grand Commander says:

"The loss of membership is still a serious problem with us as in most Jurisdictions. Our membership during the past year show a net loss of 124."

"He strongly urges all who can to attend the Forty-first Triennial, 1940, at Cleveland. Of the Past Commanders Association annual dinner and meeting at the Laconia Tavern the evening preceding the Conclave he says:

"We had a very enjoyable meeting and I am sure all took away many fine thoughts contained in the Grand Master's Address and the remarks of other speakers. It is my recommendation to the newly elected officers of the Association that a canvas be made of the Past Commanders of the State with an idea of increasing the membership of this organization, which can be of so much help and assistance to those at the head of the various Constituent Commanderies."

Of the Educational Foundation, he comments:

"The Educational Fund Committee in New Hampshire is doing fine work and while the lack of appreciation, and the indifference on the part of many borrowers is hard to understand, the fund is helping many worthy young people to obtain an education."

Christmas was duly observed by all the Commanderies. While Easter Sunday or Ascension day were not observed officially by the Knights Templar, this writer feels sure that each Knight Templar of the State did not fail, in his own way at his own church, to give thanks on those memorable days to worship and give thanks to Almighty God for those glorious events, which beyond equivocation, seal that fact of the divinity of our Blessed Saviour, and assure to us through our acceptance of Him as our impulse to follow in His steps on our pilgrimage through life, and like Him to go about doing good.

We note with great interest and pleasure that the Grand Commandery holds an Annual Church Service, and a number of the Commanderies of the State officially attended Divine Services, one most notable being that of DeWitt Clinton Commandery at Portsmouth where there were over seven hundred Sir Knights and Master Masons in line. This certainly affected the citizenry of Portsmouth for good, particularly the younger generation, who now will look forward to that day when they too can proudly wear the Templar uniform and "worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

The report of the Committee on Educational Foundation is one of the most concise, yet fully informative, your writer has reviewed. One hundred eighty-eight students have been assisted during the existence of the Foundation. The one sad note in the report is:

"Twenty have paid their loan in full; forty-five have paid on principal and interest. However the discouraging fact is one hundred thirteen have not fulfilled their obligation."

We have read of an experience of our Lord about the healing of ten lepers, who were told to go show themselves to the priests, to certify to their cleansing. One returned to our Lord to give thanks, which caused him to ask, "Were there not ten cleansed; but where are the nine?" The story relates that the thankful one was a Samaritan. They of His own race took the benefaction for granted. The world has changed but little!

The Address given by the Grand Master was not recorded in the Proceedings, but we are sure it was inspiring. That is the way of the Grand Master. Later the Grand Master installed the new official line.

#### REVIEW

The Review by J. Melvin Dresser, Eminent Grand Recorder is most comprehensive. Like the "candid camera" he makes a small picture in presenting the individual Jurisdiction, but nothing is left out. It's all there.

SIR KNIGHT WILLIS NEWTON RUGG,  
New Hampshire, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT JOHN MELVIN DRESSER,  
Concord, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Portsmouth, October 3, 1939.

#### NEW JERSEY

The Seventy-eighth Annual Conclave was convened in Trenton, March 4, at 10:00 A. M., with Sir Knight Kennington L. Thompson, Right Eminent Grand Commander presiding. All line officers were present with the exception of Sir Knight Orlando M. Bowen, Eminent Grand Captain General, detained by illness.

Following the reading and adoption of the 1937 Conclave minutes the lines were formed and Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., Sir Knight C. Byron Lear, Right Eminent Grand Junior Warden, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., and Sir Knight William Moseley Brown, Right Eminent Grand Captain of the Guard, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., were ceremonially received, the tender of authority was extended by the Right Eminent Grand Commander, and

courteously returned by the Most Eminent Grand Master with the request that the business of the Conclave proceed.

At this juncture many, vari-titled distinguished Sir Knights were announced and duly received with honors. A hearty welcome was also extended to the Past Grand Commanders of New Jersey, of whom ten were present.

At the request of the Right Eminent Grand Commander, the Grand Representatives of Sister Jurisdictions who were present, were assembled before him, and were asked to convey the Knightly greetings to the several Jurisdictions represented.

After prayer by Sir Knight John E. NeCollins, Eminent Grand Prelate, the Grand Commander presented his report. He was conscious of his obligation as Grand Commander, and from March 8, 1937, to February 24, 1938, he was actively occupied with Commandery visitations, Annual inspections Grand Conclaves of Sister Jurisdictions, and attendance on Divine Services at various points. He found it necessary to decline nineteen invitations because of inability to be at two places at the same time, or for other valid reasons.

Of Annual inspections he says:

"Inspection ratings were slightly higher than last year and that better results would still be possible if every Conclave was opened in full form."

The Grand Officers as a body showed a marked interest in attending inspections. The Grand Commander states that on several occasions the entire official line was present.

Thirteen dispensations for appearances in uniform were issued. Six of these were to appear at DeMolay events. Two dispensations were refused, one of which asked authority to set aside its own bylaws, in the matter of holding a Stated Conclave. This was properly denied.

The question of life membership, which was referred to a Committee at the last Conclave, was reported to the Grand Commandery and approved and adopted. It provides:

"Such applicants shall have first paid to the Commandery a sum, which on a basis of a return of four percentum per annum will be at least equal to the applicant's then annual dues to the Commandery," subject further, "said member shall not be exempt from any future additional or further assessments by the Grand Commandery," and still further, "all moneys received by a Commandery for life membership shall be kept in a permanent fund separate and apart from any and all other funds of the Commandery and invested only in such securities as are legal investments for Savings Banks and Trust Institutions of this State and the interest therefrom shall be paid annually to said Commandery."

A most wise provision, and it should be rigidly adhered to. With every one a life member, collecting dues would cease to be an ordeal. But we must not expect too much! Nothing however is said about the plan

being copyrighted. Let it become contagious! As I write, this thought occurs to me. On the death of the subscriber the fee is not needed for dues, and could be returned to his family to apply on funeral expenses, or if not so needed it might become part of an endowment fund the interest from it to be devoted to charity. This as an observation.

In the Grand Commander's report, speaking of decisions, all called for were answerable by reference to the Statutes of the Grand Encampment. One ruling is of general interest, and pertains to the question of preservation of a Commandery Charter. I quote:

"A photostatic copy of a Warrant is not legal. A duplicate Charter may be issued, but the Original must be surrendered."

From this it might be construed that the surrendered Original, having a certain historic value, would pass to the custody of the Grand Commandery, in trust, for safe keeping, redeemable by the said Constituent Commandery on surrender of the duplicate Charter. In the case of Commanderies having no fireproof protection this affords an excellent safeguard and should be urged upon such Commanderies.

Divine Services are a fundamental duty of Knights Templar and all the Order's sacred days should be fittingly observed. New Jersey was loyal in this respect, as twelve such services were reported as sponsored by various Commanderies. Christmas, Easter and Ascension Days were duly observed. When Templary fails as the outstanding exponent of the Christian Religion, both as an organization and through its adherents individually, its light has gone out and it is time for it to furl its banners and pass out. This we do not fear, but there is ample room for a more effective daily practice of it in our ranks. The world today sadly needs its gentle influence.

Field Days have been a part of this Grand Commandery's program, but in the interest of economy the practice was suspended. However, the contests for the Priess Trophy and the Voelter Cup were carried out, and created great interest.

The Grand Commander reports that on Saturday, January 15, 1938, a reception and dinner was held to express the gratification of the Grand Commandery of New Jersey at the election of Sir Knight C. Byron Lear as Right Eminent Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Encampment.

The Educational Foundation is found to be in excellent condition. Says the Grand Commander:

"The raising of the level of popular education and the training of leaders is essential to the preservation of the sovereignty of the people, based upon truth and justice for all, and bequeathing liberty, equality, and brotherhood to our children and our children's children."

All loans made are carefully supervised as to applicant's character and the loan's sponsors responsibility.

Referring to the Ritual the Grand Commander says:

"By the character of its exemplification, candidates are won to the Order or the reverse."

This is true! Vitally true!

Following the Grand Commander's report further, we find the Constitution of the Grand Commandery has been revised to conform to that of the Grand Encampment, and the suggestion is made that it may well serve as a model for Constituent Commanderies. Commanderies are urged to keep close tab upon the delinquent members, aiding them where worthy and urging those able, to pay promptly. Speaking of maintaining interest he says:

"Conclaves should be so carefully and thoughtfully planned that they will have a drawing power. Opportunity should be afforded every Sir Knight to become an active worker in his Commandery."

In closing his address he voices this thought:

"Templary has a glorious past of inspiring idealism and altruism. No one can contemplate its history thoughtfully without deep emotion. No Order has or can have a finer background and a more noble and satisfying philosophy. \* \* \* Out of the overcoming of adversity will come increased strength."

Many, many good things are to be found in the report of the Committee on Good of the Order. I pray the Sir Knight who passes this way, especially if he be a Commander, will pause and reflect. So runs the report:

"For WE are 'The Order' in New Jersey and whether the condition of our Order be good or bad it is OUR responsibility, and ours alone. May we bring that point home very clearly in order that we do not consider the subject to be discussed as something vague and far removed from those who go to make up the membership in this Grand Commandery. \* \* \* When in years past it was a condition that attracted men to apply for the Orders of Knighthood, when our programs were so planned as to cause the Sir Knights to be ready and anxious to attend our Conclaves, when Orders were studied, rehearsed and conferred in so impressive a manner as to warrant men of affairs to be associated with us—the credit for that condition was one for which those responsible for it might well be proud. \* \* \* That we of the present Templar generation have contributed something to maintain and to justify our right to survive those years is beyond dispute—but we propose this question—are we doing enough to cause a Christian Order such as ours to endure? Are we strengthening our forces to the point that they may be sufficiently strong so as to overcome the difficulties that an uncertain future may hold for us? We must subscribe to this truth that we are now living in a period when men are, on the whole, admittedly not fraternity-minded.

"It may be further admitted that this condition is one that from experience, moves in certain well defined cycles. That we will be sufficiently strong to survive as an Order in New Jersey, during the present phase of the cycle, we do not a moment question. But—are we as devoted Christian Templars, proud of a heritage that has come down through the

years in this country, descended, we like to believe, but cannot prove, from the Christian Order of Knighthood of the Old World. \* \* \* We realize, of course, the strenuous times of which we speak, for the last few years have brought about changes, as yet unending, that have seriously affected the social, economic and fraternal life of our country, and have left their mark upon the entire Masonic membership, regardless of geographical location.

"We are living in a changing world at a time when the action of the masses are unpredictable, when individuals in authority are either mad with power they temporarily possess or are too progressive for many of the present generation to appreciate. The peace and security of the world is in such an unsettled condition as to cause justifiable alarm in the hearts of peaceful Christian people. Wars continue to destroy lives and property, the right to worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience is denied the people in many foreign lands, a program to undermine the Church and to deny God to God-fearing people is a well known fact. \* \* \* Through well organized channels, originating from across the seas, there filters into our land doctrines that are subversive, sinister and dangerous to the peace and security of our people. \* \* \* Those who watch the developments of the fraternal world, who constantly endeavor to maintain the prestige of the past in order that it form the power of the present and the promise of the future, cannot escape the conviction that our problem is to develop a greater interest and devotion to the inspiring principles of our Knightly Christian Order. \* \* \* From the Grand Encampment of the United States we must expect leadership and guidance of the highest order—constructive planning and fearless legislation that will be in sympathy with the trend of the times.

"From the Grand Commandery of New Jersey, (or any other) we must have no less. Officers must be capable of assuming and willing to share the full responsibility which is not only theirs now, but which is ever increasing. They must ever and always act and plan for the 'Good of the Order' whatever dispersed. \* \* \* To the Constituent Commandery, as always, we must look for any direct results; results that in the final analysis, must originate through the vision and administrative ability of their officers. \* \* \* There will always be a following where the leadership is of a high order, capable of attracting men to that leadership and where peace and harmony prevails in the Commandery. \* \* \* Each one of us owes it to an Order that has attracted men to it down through the years to rededicate ourselves wholeheartedly to the principle that Christianity has moved forward steadily down through the ages of time—through the endless pages of history the cause of Christ has been advanced."

The report of the Committee on Necrology discloses that Grand Commandery line has remained intact throughout the year, but that 115 Sir Knights of the Jurisdiction have passed on.

The report of the Special Committee on Financial Condition of the Grand Commandery reports a constantly declining revenue from per capita receipts, and that expenditures must be revised to a lower basis.

The recommendation of the Finance Committee budgeting the 1938 operations of the Grand Commandery was approved and ordered printed.

On motion duly seconded and adopted unanimously, "That all remission of dues of worthy indigent Knights for 1937, properly certified to on or before April 15, 1938, shall result in remission of 1937-38 per capita

tax on those Sir Knights to those Commanderies, and proper credit for said remission shall be claimed from the Grand Encampment in accordance with the provision of General Orders of the Grand Encampment."

The report of Inspecting Officers reflects "a marked revival of the old time Templar spirit and the Commanderies have shown a tendency to increase their Tactics ratings."

Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master, in addressing the Grand Commandery, pledged continuance of effort to secure exemption of the Order from the Social Security Tax, and advocated social activities, including ladies night, and a business-like budget strictly adhered to by each Commandery. He further exhorted all Sir Knights to ring true to the tenets of the Order.

The Committee on Revision of Constitution of Grand Commandery presented an amended Constitution with the motion that it be entered upon the records and lie over until the next Annual Conclave. The motion prevailed.

#### REVIEW

SIR KNIGHT ROBERT P. SHERMAN,  
Orange, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT EDWARD WEST,  
Trenton, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Trenton, March 3, 1939.

#### NEW MEXICO

October 21, 1938, the date, Albuquerque the place, and Sir Knight Thomas J. Hall, in Templar uniform, the Right Eminent Grand Commander, the presiding officer. With the exception of Sir Knight Samuel E. Wood, Eminent Grand Generalissimo, who passed on during the year, all Grand Officers were present. Representatives of eight of the twelve Commanderies also reported present, and the Grand Commandery was duly convened. Sir Knight James R. Malott, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Arizona, and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., was announced and on the request of the Grand Commander was duly introduced to the Grand Commandery by Sir Knight Reuben Perry, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander. The reception of Grand Representatives and Past Grand Commanders followed immediately. Following this, Sir Knight James A. McKenzie presented the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of New Mexico, William M. Bickel, one time Right Eminent Grand Commander. Sir Knight Melvin R. Chapin, following, presented Louis C. Rockett, Right Excellent Deputy Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons, New Mexico, and Very

Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, both of whom were cordially welcomed.

The Grand Commander reports having made personal visits to each of the twelve Commanderies of the jurisdiction which are widely separated from each other. I quote:

"The number of Sir Knights in each of the contacts reflected the enthusiasm of the Commandery. Groups ranged in number from three to fifty. Those needing inspiration to a greater degree furnished the smallest attendance. I am indeed grateful to all for courtesies extended at each of my contacts, and regret that it was not possible for me to have met every Sir Knight of the jurisdiction."

He believes in the value of the York Rite Festivals to New Mexico Templary. I quote:

"I am convinced that this mode of conferring degrees best suits the needs of Templary in New Mexico. \* \* \* There have been some objections offered, but the good features so far overshadow these objections that I recommend its use unreservedly."

The Grand Commander reports a general observance of Christmas and Easter, with outstanding Easter observances at Albuquerque and Raton and held at sunrise. This is ideal! He reports harmonious relations with basic Masonic Bodies, but urges Recorders to check their rosters closely to keep tab on disqualified members who have lost standing in the basic bodies.

Quoting again from the Grand Commander's Address:

"Each month during the Templar year, save June, July and August, I contacted the Constituent Commanderies through Commanders and Recorders by means of the Grand Commander's Monthly Letter. In these communications I attempted to bring to you outstanding events occurring, as well as to offer encouragement and good wishes from the office. Whether or not they have fulfilled their purpose lies with you. These communications also went to Past Grand Commanders, as well as to the Grand Encampment Officers."

Of the Condition of the Order the Grand Commander reports that with the exception of the Commanderies at Albuquerque, Gallup and Roswell, there is much room for improvement of Templar interest; that the smaller Commanderies have had a pretty hard time. Further:

"It is high time that young men be enlisted in the ranks, and assume command at the proper time. This must take place and at an early date if Templary is to survive."

This from the Grand Commander of a Jurisdiction which is one of the two to occupy the place of honor among the Jurisdictions in reporting an increase, even though it is but two, but it is an increase.

The Grand Commander proposes but one recommendation:

"That each and every Sir Knight in this Jurisdiction rededicate him-

self to the pledges he has made. I know that all else tending toward the advancement of the Order will follow. There is nothing wrong with Templary; the fault, if any, lies within you and me, Sir Knights."

This recommendation contains the key to successful achievement of Templary's great objective, the winning of men to serve under the banner of the Captain of our Salvation, Jesus Christ. The times declare unto all thinking men that the practice of the principles laid down by our Lord during His sojourn among us is our only hope for the continuance of peace and progress toward the continued development of our present civilization. The machinery of war has reached such a frightful stage of development, that its active use by nations against each other means practically the wiping out of the populations engaged, and the utter destruction of their cities, and other centers of population. In spite of this there are crazed Dictators straining at the leash in their efforts to provoke war. A firm faith in God, and His righteous judgment is our strongest defense in this dark hour in the world's history. Our plain duty as Templars is to steadfastly proclaim that Faith in our own lives and works.

The Address of the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Sir Knight James R. Malott, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Arizona, contains much for thoughtful reflection by the true Knight Templar. I quote:

"We have had too much dead wood in the past, and some of that is our own fault. What do we do for these men? We read the minutes and bills, and then adjourn and go home. Some of them decide that will be the last time for them to attend a Commandery meeting—they would rather stay home. After missing a meeting or two, they stay home. One thing the Grand Master wanted me to stress, and that was the importance of paying our bills and taking care of our financial matters. He suggested one other thing: more personal interest in our Sir Knights; more social interest. Get acquainted with each other; let them know that Templary is interested in them. \* \* \* There are many men I would not recommend as members of this Order; they would not fit. We should endeavor in the selection of future members to make membership in the Order mean an outstanding and visible adherence to a way of life that will make for true happiness and true friendship, and our growth will take care of itself.

"A good many Masons have been discovering that Masonry is not only to encourage and assist the brethren, but we should try to promote the general welfare of mankind and that lesson typified by our symbol—the cross—the brotherhood of men. \* \* \* Today all the old standards are attacked. We have conflict between capital and labor, between class and class, and between nation and nation. Every one is looking out for himself. But there are two sides to the story. We are losing that lesson of the Golden Rule, and if we lose that, we will find there will be conflict among us as a people. There are too many 'isms.' We are not supposed to engage in any political discussion or activity, but we should oppose individually and as an organization those anti-Christian philosophies of life that have grown into certain 'isms' of today."

No loans have been made from the Educational Foundation since

August, 1935. During the past year \$1,257.18 in principal, and \$402.74 in interest has been collected on loan accounts. \$6,000.00 has been invested in Government bonds, bringing the total bond holdings for the account of the Foundation to \$10,000.00. This is the only three-year inactive loan fund that has come under our observation. An unusual condition!

#### REVIEW

There is no Review.

SIR KNIGHT LOUIS C. ROCKETT,  
Santa Fe, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT ALPHEUS A. KEEN,  
Albuquerque, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Gallup, October 20, 1939.

#### NEW YORK

Enter, Sir Knight Chalmers L. Pancoast, Right Eminent Grand Commander, in the full uniform of Grand Commander. At first glance we are convinced that behind the happy countenance which greets us, is an active and orderly mentality, a man capable of planning and performing things worth-while. It has been our good fortune to see him progress, step by step, up the stairs to the head of a great Commandery. We note, too, that his local Commandery is known as the Lion-Hearted. With such environment men are trained to deeds of courage. And these times call for lion-hearted courage on the part of the leaders in Templary, when men seem prone to forget that God rules the Universe, and holds the destiny of man in His hand. When they bend to things temporal rather than to things eternal.

A service for the observance of the One Hundred Twenty-fifth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of New York was held in the First Reformed Church, Kingston, New York, at 8:00 p. m. Sunday, June 12, 1938.

During the service preceding the sermon, with all the Sir Knights standing, and swords drawn and held inverted, with grip and hilt forming a cross, and held before their eyes, they repeated in unison the Apostle's Creed, and 50 re-affirming their belief in Almighty God and His Son, Jesus Christ. This scene must have created a deep impression upon the public mind witnessing this avowal.

The sermon by Sir Knight and Reverend Clarence Edward Brown was loaded with inspiration and was based on the subject, "The Uplifted Cross":

"Quiet as these words may seem they are a challenge to Christian Knighthood of the world by the Grand Master of all men. \* \* \* They spring from the heart of the world's greatest leader, who sprang forth

in the battle of humanity and dared the knighthood of the world to follow Him. 'And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.' John 12: 32.

"In the days that are gone it was a clear ringing call to our Order. \* \* \* The poor were being trampled upon; widows and orphans were abused; government was neglected; language was unchaste. Christ's name and cause were in disrepute. To meet these needs, brave good men were demanded, men who, reverencing their conscience as their king should feel that they were called: To break the heathen and uphold the Christ, to ride abroad redressing human wrongs. \* \* \* Today that Cross, the symbol of which we bear is so sorely needed in the world of humanity, for men are forgetting its lessons and its message is being dimmed. Its light is fading in our hearts and we need to light it again that men may see that light and follow Him.

"These high purposes and elements of the Cross that will smite the 'isms' of today and drive them slinking into their holes of forgetfulness must be placed before our minds today. And we must say with all our heart: I, if I be lifted up. There is power in the uplifted Cross. \* \* \* To lift that Cross high before the world there must be the sympathetic touch. \* \* \* Only mighty hearts are reached by the cries of earth's humanity. \* \* \* We forget what a majestic figure, our Commander, Christ was, who never saw a case of human need without wishing to relieve it; that looking on men who were in error of thought or deed, felt infinitely pitiful for them."

Lack of space forbids further quoting of this helpful sermon.

At 10:00 A. M. June 13, and pursuant to a resolution adopted at Gloversville June 14, 1937, convened for the One Hundred Twenty-fifth Annual Conclave in the Municipal Auditorium in the city of Kingston, N. Y., after having received the Grand Commander and his associate officers according to the tactics, the Grand Commander ordered roll call, which found all Grand Officers present; also eleven Past Grand Commanders, together with a constitutional number of members of the Grand Commandery. After prayer by the Grand Prelate, and the reading of the proclamation concerning the present Conclave, all present were admonished to take notice thereof and to govern themselves accordingly. The formalities of introducing Past Grand Commanders and distinguished visitors having been disposed of the Honorable Conrad J. Heisselman, Mayor of Kingston, and a member of the Craft, was received, during a recess of the Conclave to welcome the Sir Knights to Kingston. In the course of his address he said:

"It has taken you gentlemen a long time to get here; we have been here since 1616 and some of you have just come here in 1938, and I sincerely hope you won't wait another three hundred years to come back to Kingston."

Thirty-nine Grand Representatives answered roll call. A fine record. The Grand Commander's Address is a well condensed but comprehensive document. At the beginning of the year, he says:

"I realized that I was writing an important chapter in the history of Templar Masonry in the Empire State. \* \* \* To me the task was one

of building upon the firm foundation laid and cemented by all the Right Eminent Grand Commanders, who have preceded me in this important work for our Order. \* \* \* These Orders have been designed to promote two fundamental major activities, that of Christianity and Patriotism.

"In many history books the height of Templary has frequently been marked with the figures of membership. But the real success of Knight Templary has been its practice of Christian Virtues, the comfort it has brought to the souls of thousands of men, and the strength to carry on with an abiding faith in God and Mankind. Gains in figures are meaningless unless spiritual strength has come to many men. \* \* \* As Christian Knights we should demonstrate to the world that our love of Country is a living spiritual force. \* \* \* Programs of a Christian and Patriotic nature are necessary in every community in helping solve our great social problems. When Knights Templar are given an opportunity to express publicly these high ideals, they gain the esteem and respect of the world outside."

The Order of Merit was awarded to 54 Commanders of Commanderies during the past year for loyal service and constructive and interesting programs issued during the year. To bring before the readers of this review what was done by Commanders to win the Order of Merit I will quote that of the Grand Commander's own Commandery, Coeur de Lion No. 23:

"Showed a 32% increase in attendance at Conclaves. Outstanding events—observance of St. John the Evangelist Day; Junior Officers advanced for conferring Orders; resuming the Malta Corps Outings, and Tribute Conclave to Sir Knight Samuel C. Wilson, who had served 40 years as Recorder, on his 75th birthday. \* \* \* Many of the ideas, plans and successful events might be offered as suggestions to other Commanderies."

Many special dispensations were issued. Several were for the purpose of attending events of the Order of DeMolay, others to appear in uniform at Eastern Star celebrations, and at Master Masons and Constitution Nights, Order of Amaranth, etc. By some these will be regarded as unorthodox, by others as proper and helpful publicity, and by the Sir Knights participating as a pleasing opportunity to show to wives and sweethearts what wonderfully good looking men they had chosen as companions. All of which is to the good of Templary in keeping at high tide a healthy activity and interest on the part of the Baldric Sir Knights, which is something a lot of Commanderies are not doing, and are wondering why they are not interested.

The Grand Commander proved himself an active visitant. We are sure that each of his visits to the Commanderies of his Jurisdiction was both an event and an inspiration to all the Sir Knights of the Commandery he visited.

From the report of the Secretary of the Educational Foundation we find that collections on loans were \$39,437.53. Loans were made amounting to \$37,511.00. The amount of interest in the collections is not set forth. Neither does the report show the number of the students

to whom loans were made. However, on analyzing the Treasurer's Report, we find that \$7,360.98 interest was collected.

The Committee on Charities and Religious Observance presents an interesting and extended report. It expresses regrets that a number of Commanderies report "NO religious activities." This prompts us to ask, why hold on to the Charter? Templary being a Christian Order, and the Commandery doing nothing Christian, what right have they to a Charter? However, the large majority were very active. Christmas, Easter and Ascension days were observed by many of the Commanderies.

On Tuesday evening, June 14, following the great street parade of the afternoon, a Patriotic Pageant and Historical Drama, written, organized and presented under the personal direction of Sir Knight Chalmers Lowell Pancoast, Right Eminent Grand Commander, was presented at the Municipal Auditorium, followed by the Grand Ball at 9:30 p. m. Judging from the program the Pageant must have been delightfully interesting and informative, especially to students of ancient Templary.

The report of the Committee on Necrology cannot be passed by without a tribute to its eloquent, yet sympathetic tone, deeply touching, yet beautifully optimistic, assuring us there is no death, but simply passing within the veil to join company with that glorified throng who have fought the good fight and have now received that crown of victory which faideth not away. Yes! The resurrection must be accepted as an accomplished fact. Our Lord, after death upon the Cross, and burial in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, wherein was never yet man laid, appeared many times to his disciples and to others. Yes, recall the story of His appearing to doubting Thomas. If God had not so loved the world this thing would have never happened. So let us then love God and the things that are of God more and more. A great, yet possible objective, one that brings confidence and serenity to the human soul.

The Committee on Publicity say:

"Your publicity with two-thirds of the Constituent Commanderies reporting, is very strongly impressed with the large numbers of varied activities during this Grand Commandery year which brought Templary before the eyes of the general public."

The Address of the Most Eminent Grand Master was given the closest attention. It was thought provocative, question after question is fired at the listeners in rapid succession. He drew attention to the fact that for the past fifteen years in service in the Line he had been visiting the various Grand Jurisdictions. One paragraph will strike home to many a reader of these lines, I quote:

"I go sometimes to the Constituent Commanderies in these various jurisdictions. Sometimes the work is done in such a way as to make me think that the man who took the degrees had been swindled out of his

fee. He was started wrongly. He did not get the impression that Templary amounted to anything, because the presentation of the ideals of Templary was done in a slovenly manner."

Again:

"I know of Commanderies where they continue in line the same men year after year. They fail to give their young men an opportunity to get into the work to understand it, to learn to love it and live it. This is a mistaken policy."

#### REVIEW

Sir Knight John B. Mullan, writes the comprehensive, well condensed review, covering Templary in seventy-three pages. He appears to have gathered the gold nuggets in his probing the proceedings.

SIR KNIGHT JACKSON R. SHOEMAKER,  
Elmira, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT JOHN B. MULLAN,  
Rochester, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Elmira, June 5, 1939.

#### NORTH CAROLINA

Charles Bailey Newcomb, the incoming Right Eminent Grand Commander, in civilian garb, adorns the frontispiece of the Proceedings. Charles is a charter member of Temple Baptist Church, Wilmington, N. C., has served as a member of the Board of Education of New Hanover County for a five-year period, and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina for 1935.

Sunday preceding the Fifty-eighth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery at Greensboro, Monday, May 10, the Grand Commandery assembled for Divine Service in the First Baptist Church of Greensboro, under the direction of the Grand Prelate, William C. Cravner. As a part of this service the Sir Knights rose and together, in testimony of their belief in Jesus Christ as the Saviour of the World, and their sworn Captain, repeated in unison the Apostle's Creed. Nothing is said as to attendance on this service other than the publishing the Order of Service.

All Grand Officers answered roll call, together with ten Past Grand Commanders. Twenty-five Grand Representatives also answered roll call. Many distinguished visitors were received and welcomed by the Grand Commander, among them being Sir Knight Frank Hart as the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master. In presenting his Address, Sir Knight Howard G. Etheridge, Right Eminent Grand Commander said:

"It was my earnest desire and intention to try to do something to arouse the sluggishness and apparent lack of interest in Templarism, and

now it is with much regret that I have to appear before you with sincere, abject apology for having accomplished so little. I crave permission to explain to you the reason for accomplishing so few of my ambitions. \* \* \* Last October it became necessary for me to change my position, and I was forced to sever my official connection with the organizations and take up new duties, which have required my full and entire time; my whole scheme of life was changed; my thoughts, energy and time have been devoted to an entirely different activity, and, therefore, I have been handicapped in trying to perform the duties as your Grand Commander.

"My next move was to abolish the division as set up some years ago in this Grand Jurisdiction, and not appoint the Divisional Commanders. I saw no need for them especially in view of the fact that apparently they failed to function.

"Triennial at Miami: The attendance was somewhat smaller than previous meetings. However, the hosts were most extravagant in their entertainment and I am sure that our entire delegation, as well as thousands of others, were delightfully entertained. It was a privilege that I shall always cherish and I assure you that I am deeply grateful for the opportunity of representing you on that occasion.

"Christmas Observance: Of the thirty-one Commanderies, I received reports from eleven, including my own Commandery as having held the observance with the number attending reported. This is one service that should be strictly observed, and I urge each Commander to comply with the regulations.

"Easter Service: Except for my own, I have received no report of any Commandery having attended church for Divine Service. No mention is made of Ascension Day observance. He urges prompt printing of the Proceedings.

"Recommendations: I have given serious consideration to the matter of uniforms. \* \* \* I am firmly convinced that we should adopt a more comfortable uniform. Therefore I recommend that we make some definite plans to have a more comfortable coat and I suggest that the collar be a turndown collar, similar to the one adopted by the Navy and Army. I suggest that we consider abolishing the uniform and substituting therefor a cape, to be worn over the street clothes, as a mark of a Knight Templar. I concede that this is a radical change from the regularly adopted uniform, which is really not prescribed, for there is really no regulation for definite uniform."

Evidently the Grand Commander has paid but little attention to our Grand Encampment Statutes, 41 (i). Possibly formal action in this particular matter was never taken by the Grand Commandery of North Carolina.

On Condition of the Order the Grand Commander is greatly disengaged over the outlook, as he says:

"I must speak the truth and say that the great and Magnanimous Order of the Temple in North Carolina is fast passing, and from all outward signs has lost whatever prestige it ever had. We no longer attract the type of Mason whom we are proud to call Sir Knight, and one who can render service and reflect honor to the Order. I fear that we have in the past several years placed too much importance on money, the payment of per capita tax, large classes of candidates, and lost

entirely the significance of the real, great and good lesson taught in our Rituals. It would be better if we only Knighted one good and worthy Mason, than numbers of those who are traveling to some other degree in the system."

My dear Sir Knight, there are no other degrees in the York Rite system. You must refer to an organization which has set up in its own laws that its petitioners must have attained to certain heights in Masonry, York or Scottish Rites before they are fit subjects for their society. This is not the first time this specter has appeared in the Templar hosts. However, do not take fright at this. You have the privilege of stopping such as you are convinced are merely prostituting Templary to attain such an objective. For those who later take such steps I would say, make the conferral of the Orders of Christian Knighthood so deeply impressive that they will be devoted adherents to our great Order. It is not the Order that is losing prestige. The decadence lies elsewhere. The Order is presented to the world by those members who live it.

"By their works ye shall know them." Are we ringing true? The Grand Commander casts the gage to the membership when he says:

"You, and you only are responsible, because you assumed those sacred vows voluntarily, \* \* \* you suffer only and not the Order when you violate or neglect them, or consider them lightly. The penalty is upon you and you invited it."

It is noted that the address was referred to the Committee on Doings of the Grand Officers.

From the report of the Educational Foundation Committee we find that 13 loans were made during the year.

Repayments on principal during the year .....	\$3,305.04
Interest received .....	1,702.32
Student loans outstanding .....	\$22,358.72
Accrued interest on loans .....	6,364.78

Due to the continued National Youth Administration assistance the demand for loans for the year under report was not large. Every eligible request was granted.

#### REVIEW

The review as in the past is by Sir Knight J. Edward Allen, and presented not as a review but as an inquiry, diagnosis and findings. It is ably presented, product of a mind steeped in Masonic experience and devoted to it. It is exhaustively frank and thought provocative.

SIR KNIGHT CHARLES B. NEWCOMB,  
Wilmington, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT WILLIAM RITCHIE SMITH,  
Raleigh, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Durham, Second week, May, 1939.

## NORTH DAKOTA

Louis F. Smith, Grand Commander, but he appears in his neat street suit as an engineer off duty. In either case he is the idol of the small boy who, in seeing the majestic flight of a powerful locomotive with a train of fine passenger equipment behind it, determines that when he grows up he is going to be an engineer. Then a few days later he sees Sir Knight Louis in his splendid Templar uniform, he fully resolves that when he grows up and is a locomotive engineer he must be a Knight Templar as well. And so is formed a life's objective in a plastic, growing mind. So as a Knight Templar, Sir Knight Smith is fundamentally equipped to be one of the most dependable engineers of the Northern Pacific line, having as his High Captain the Author of the sermon on the mount, which embodies all that is necessary upon which to base a Christian life. Men whose life is based upon the principles of the Christian religion always make good employes, and maintain the highest standards of faithful performance.

Sir Knight Louis F. Smith, Right Eminent Grand Commander convened the Forty-ninth Annual Conclave at Mandan on May 16. A permanent feature of the North Dakota Annual Conclave is a religious service immediately following the opening. We commend them for this action. In no other affairs of men does a strong religious undertone fit into the picture so thoroughly as in a Conclave of sworn soldiers of Jesus Christ. The great need of all this troubled world today is the inoculation of the temper of our Lord and Saviour. And so the Grand Prelate, Sir Knight Walter Lee Airheart, addressed the Conclave on "What is Truth?"

"Abstractly truth is conformity to fact or reality. \* \* \* So long as the investigator is content with the investigation of relationship, sequences, causes and effects pertaining to such selected things, he remains within his field, but when he begins to inquire concerning meanings he is driven outside his field and carried back to an investigation of the very nature of reality. It is so that we cannot come to the discovery of values, real, ultimate and abiding without asking what is the nature of man and the world in which he lives. \* \* \* On the other hand, one can choose to believe in God; that ultimate reality is best conceived in personalistic terms, which means that intelligence, purposive direction toward worthwhile ends and moral values do find expression and support in the ongoing processes of the world. Such an hypothesis is a reasonable basis for man's feeling of moral obligation (I ought) prompts him to seek help from outside himself in his struggle for spiritual achievements, inspired faith that his moral values will be preserved and that he will have conscious participation in some glorious future after physical death.

"Now, speaking on the basis of reason this is only a hypothesis, which does not admit of scientific proof. It must be accepted on faith. But the same limitation applies to the mathematical hypothesis, for to say that only that is true which can be scientifically demonstrated is to exalt a method of procedure into a dogma with which to close the way against any other manner of search for truth. A scientist may speak with unquestioned authority concerning the things within his field but he

transgresses against his own principles when he denies the existence of things outside his field and unapproachable by his method. \* \* \* Whatever one's creed may be, most men accord moral superiority to Jesus. Without doubt he takes his place as one of the world's greatest spiritual achievements. Upon what hypothesis did he handle his world and evaluate himself and his fellows? In short, he believed God to be his Father and all men to be his brothers. That was the foundation upon which his life was reared.

"Now all man's experience in handling the natural world proves that truth leads to success and falsehood to defeat. If the materialistic assumption that there is no God be correct, then Jesus lived his life on a false assumption. Can it be that in the spiritual world falsehood produces better results than truth? And consider how greatly Jesus has enriched the world. Many, many millions of men have been greatly enriched through His giving of himself. He gave His all because he felt that it was His Father's will. \* \* \* Of such are the intellectual grounds for the belief in God and immortality."

A convincing analysis of Truth. A most helpful exposition to a questioning mind. We commend Sir Knight Airheart on the clarity of his statements and reasoning.

With the close of the religious address the Grand Commandery reconvened, and Sir Knight Frank H. Sprague, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master was received into the Conclave under special escort and most cordially welcomed. Many interesting expressions are found in the Grand Commander's Address. On Christmas Observance he says:

"Agreeable to the Christmas Order, several Commanderies followed out the observance with considerable success."

Nothing is done about the observance of Easter or Ascension Days.

On the matter of uniforms the Grand Commander reports:

"I have always felt that the price of our uniforms was too much of a deterring factor in our fees for the Orders, and therefore have constantly insisted that a committee of this kind should be present to take care of this particular business. During the past year the services of this committee have become more evident in furnishing used uniforms for Commanderies doing work. \* \* \* This policy of making use of the used uniforms about the State through a central body or clearing house, has made it possible for us to reduce our initiatory fees to a very attractive figure. \* \* \* Our Grand Jurisdiction not unlike others of its kind, is being constantly troubled with Constituent Commanderies that seem to have difficulty in making headway. There are always those who appear to find more obstacles than others, whether this be due to the human element in us or just plain circumstances. \* \* \* Notwithstanding, the condition exists and I feel we should do something about it. \* \* \* We have reduced our losses as against those of last year by more than sixty per cent; and we have increased our membership gain over the same period by nearly one hundred per cent. \* \* \* Our financial status too has taken on new life."

The report of the Educational Foundation discloses that twelve new loans were made during the year. One delinquent borrower was located and a partial payment secured on his loan, and ultimate settlement in full

appears insured. Other old loans are resuming payments. However, it was found desirable to charge off old loans to the amount of \$553,000. They are hopeful of subsequent partial recovery on some of these. Surplus funds have been invested in United States Savings Bonds. The maximum loan to students has been reduced to \$100.

"For this reason and due to the fact that N. Y. A. assistance and State political loans have lessened the demand for loans, we have an increasingly larger fund for investment. This fact leads us to believe that the time will come when some other use should be found for at least the income from Foundation Funds. \* \* \* With the provision that the interest on such investment be used for scholarships of suitable amounts, to be granted to students at the various educational institutions of the State. This is a matter which should be given careful consideration."

The Templar dead of this and other Grand Jurisdictions are fittingly remembered by the Committee on Necrology.

Monday afternoon and evening were devoted to competitive drills, Templar and Dress Parade. In the evening a delicious dinner was served in the Asylum of the Temple at which some one hundred fifty Sir Knights and ladies were present. Unusual note to be found in printed proceedings—but perfectly in order in dry North Dakota.

"It should be recorded that on Tuesday the rain so much needed west of the Missouri River began to fall and kept us for most of that week, to the great satisfaction of the folks there."

#### REVIEW

The usual concise review of Masonic conditions and trends was presented by Sir Knight Walter L. Stockwell. Much in small compass best describes it. Listen reader, to a few selected quotations:

"We ought to appreciate the fact that we cannot be unmindful, and ought not to be uninformed of conditions existing in the other constituent parts of the Grand Encampment. \* \* \* Since last we met in Bismarck a year ago, world conditions have steadily grown worse so far as the things for which we profess to stand—the great principles of the Prince of Peace. Outwardly at least, the influence of the Christian Religion is nil. We, of the United States must keep hands off. Pronouncements are made from time to time by those at Washington, but they are not of much potency; apparently the only force which dictators understand is brute force and death dealing instruments. We have learned to our sorrow and at some expense that these things don't settle the issues between nations. \* \* \* The election of Sir Knight Mark Norris, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Most Eminent Grand Master, brings to the head of our Templar Order a very vigorous octogenarian who is imbued with real Templar spirit and who will do his utmost to inspire the Templar of America to new and greater efforts."

What of the future? cries the reviewer of North Dakota!

"In the Order of the Temple there is definitely the Christian ideal. We find the great Roman Church officially hostile to all Freemasonry. It has been ruthlessly wiped out in Italy and Germany within the last few years, and within the past two months the doors of Masonic Lodges

in Austria have been closed and their membership scattered. We doubt not many a Mason there has died because of the principles for which our fraternity stands. We are informed that in Spain Masons have been executed in numbers, the only charge apparently being their membership in the Craft. \* \* \* We may quite properly ask ourselves why? There is but one answer which we can give.

"Freemasonry and the Order of the Temple stands for Faith in God, Freedom of Conscience, the value of human personality, and democracy in government as opposed: (1) Religious authority vested in one man, be he Pope or a King Defender of the Faith. (2) Dictatorship or autocratic powers of any kind in government which give no recourse to the rights of the governed. (3) The enslavement of men.

"The United States, the British Empire and the Scandinavian countries constitute very largely the last stand for Freemasonry. It is difficult for any of us to understand fully this bitter and implacable hatred of our fraternity, but such are the facts. \* \* \* Of one thing we are sure, we must individually, if not collectively take a definite stand for God and his Righteousness, for our fellow men and for our country and the freedom which our form of government guarantees."

SIR KNIGHT ADOLPH D. ERTRESVAAG,  
Bottineau, Grand Commander,  
SIR KNIGHT WALTER L. STOCKWELL,  
Fargo, Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Bottineau, Date to be selected.

#### OHIO

The following is from the *Cincinnati Enquirer* of October 13:

"Cincinnati welcomes most heartily the thousands of Knights Templar of the Grand Commandery of Ohio, and hopes their stay in the Queen City will be pleasant in every possible way. Now celebrating its Ninety-sixth Annual Conclave, this organization nears the century mark with a great record of constructive service. It is a body of men of high moral character and civic responsibility. As such it has a gratifying influence as a stabilizing factor in our community and national life. An orderly society providing abundant satisfaction for everyone is not something that can be established and maintained by legislation. So complex a social order as ours depends also on the moral influence of those organizations which seek to inculcate high ideals and to translate them into achievement. Churches, schools, fraternal societies, civic organizations—all these and many other groups have roles to play. The Knights Templar set a splendid example by their championship of high principle and sound idealism. They are indeed welcome as guests of the Queen City."

And now a bit about the Parade which preceded the Conclave:

"The weather was ideal, and the marching Knights with their plumes and banners waving in the breeze, the beautifully decorated streets, the music of the marching bands, and the throngs of people everywhere on the sidelines was all most inspiring."

The various scenes of the parade captured by the *Cincinnati Enquirer* camera staff, and by their courtesy published in the Proceedings vivify

the imagination as one reads the preceding quotation concerning the parade. Majestic, inspiring, exhilarating, glorious! are weak expressions as one witnesses such a body of men, massed national colors, bands interspersed in the line of march, playing 'Onward Christian Soldiers' the rhythm of the cadenced marching of the host cause the heart to beat just a little faster as the mind senses the meaning of it all.

The great moment has arrived, the Sir Knights have assembled, a constitutional number is present, the Annual Conclave is convened, 9:30 A. M., October 12, 1938. We find too, that the Grand Officers, Past Grand Commanders, and distinguished guests have been duly escorted from the Netherland Plaza Hotel by Hanselmann Commandery No. 16, Knights Templar of Cincinnati. A distinguished and thrilling cavalcade. Followed then the Invocation by Sir Knight and Reverend Phil Porter, Eminent Grand Prelate. At the request of the Grand Commander, Sir Knight Louis H. Wieber, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, retired and introduced the Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, under an escort of Past Grand Commanders, in charge of the Eminent Grand Captain General. After being warmly welcomed by the Grand Commander other distinguished Sir Knights were introduced. They were Sir Knight Adrian Hamersly, Right Eminent Grand Recorder; Sir Knight William Mosely Brown, Right Eminent Grand Captain of the Guard, and Sir Knight Leonidas Perry Newby, Most Eminent Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U. S. A. Then continued the introduction of several other outstanding Sir Knights, among them I note Sir Knight Clyde P. Love, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Pennsylvania. Addresses of welcome and attendant responses followed rapidly.

I must pause to quote from the Address of welcome in behalf of the Knights Templar of Cincinnati and vicinity, by Sir Knight Frank H. Nelson, Cincinnati Commandery No. 3:

"But I am far more concerned Right Eminent Grand Commander and Sir Knights, that that kind of thing for which Knights Templarism stands shall be ever present in your minds and in all your deliberations. It is not the hospitality for which you come to Cincinnati, but it is to take serious concern for the well being of Templary, to further its discipline, to study the problem that face it, to strengthen this Order, to bring into it men of understanding and character, and force, and to give to them that which Templary has to give.

"But beneath all the things that concern the mechanics, if I may use such a term, that which all groups such as this must have, is the spirit of the Institution. Of course, there is the mechanics, that kind of thing which in my own church, when I was young disturbed me greatly. We came, men professing faith in God and in Christ, to consider together the things of religion. And we spent a great deal of time in parliamentary procedure, in tinkering with the details of the laws, in doing little things, and sometimes it seemed to me that the last place to find anything about religion was a church convention. And I think that does not apply alone to religion and the church. \* \* \* You have got to consider the mechanics of Templary, those essential details that come up in your organization, that have to be dealt with by the commanding body. \* \* \* But I would

have you think in these times of the deeper things for which Knights Templar stand.

"You come together not only to serve the Order and to further the establishment of Commanderies and to see that they are properly run; you are here to consider those things for which Templary significantly stands, and which it so explicitly expresses in every part of its Ritual—faith in God, the Christian virtues, the Christian ideals, and the Christian faith. All Masonry stands for faith in God. Thank God that it does! Thank God for that great body of men throughout this country who make their profession of faith in God when they come into Masonry. No atheist may be a Mason. It is a fundamental law of Masonry. No man, no Mason, may be a Knight Templar who is not a Christian. \* \* \* And in parts of the modern world, faith in God is scorned, scorned in America and scorned in Europe, scorned not by revolutionaries—I am not speaking now of revolutionaries, scorned in seats of learning, scorned in a far more subtle and dangerous way, in those taking for granted attitudes that put God out of consideration. God does not count today in the great axiomatic mind of large sections of the modern world.

"And in these times particularly the Christian virtues of faith in God the Father, faith in Christ as the Saviour and the Master and Leader of Life, the interpreter of the secret mystery of life, its significance and its worth. Christ's love for people, Christ's standards of righteousness, of humility, of patience, of righteousness without limit, those qualities of life which differentiate a man from a beast, which give to life its hope, its self respect, its spiritual energy—those things today are seriously questioned and they are greatly denied. \* \* \* The time has come, it seems to me, that we have got to gird on our swords and draw them in defense of the faith, to keep that faith, to stand for it, not by fighting, but by keeping the faith. And we gather together in Asylums and in this Grand Commandery Conclave, to have a deep inner consciousness that we are concerned through the mechanics with the things that endure and the things that are most harmful, the things that make the difference between life and death."

From the Grand Commander's Address we quote:

"'Condition of the Order.' The time has arrived, according to the final reports of this year, for us to rejoice in the fact that we have apparently reached bottom and are very much on the upgrade in our Order. The attendance, interest, social functions, and especially the increased interest in the conferring of the Orders by visiting Commanderies, has been outstanding this year, and without doubt the cause for the smaller loss, which was 1,062. This is an improvement over last year of 217, and the smallest loss since 1930, and I am almost certain with the leadership during the coming year, Templary in Ohio will again show and increase. \* \* \* 'Christmas Observance.' 62 Commanderies observed Christmas with an attendance of 3,023 Sir Knights, and a collection of \$2,416.65. 17 Commanderies did not observe Christmas. \* \* \* 'Inspections.' With the exception of three Commanderies, all Commanderies were inspected. \* \* \* The attendance and general interest was greater than in many years past, and it is gratifying to mention that the visiting of nearby Commanderies was outstanding."

In the report on visitations a better conception may be had by noting the numbers present at the many activities 76 Commanderies were inspected with an attendance of 6,482. Easter Sunday was observed by 52 Commanderies with a total attendance of 3,848, Ascension Day by 24

Commanderies with an attendance of 1,149. Many dispensations were issued to appear in public in uniforms, install officers. Several were denied to appear in uniform to participate in Armistice Day parades, as escort to DeMolay Chapter, Eastern Star Chapter and at the National Convention of the Grotto. The Grand Commander was very active in visiting various State Templar bodies and functions, as well as several interstate visits to Templar Annual Conclaves and other functions.

From the address of the Committee on Obituaries I quote:

"There is a gate called Death. All men are born to a place on the hither side of that gate. One by one all men must pass through it. We who are Knights Templar are deeply impressed with this solemn truth. For a little while we occupy our stations and we hold our places in the rank of our Order, and then to each one of us comes the summons. But because of our Christian faith, we contemplate that summons with high hope and good courage. The ranks that are ever crumbling here are forming on the other side in files that shall hold their formation eternally. For us the gate of Death is the Gate of Life. \* \* \* We remember the Knightly service and kindly deeds which marked the early course of these our brethren. As each name is read some of us will recall a staunch friend, perhaps the Knight who most clearly revealed to us, within and without the Asylum, the good and beautiful things that make us love chivalric Masonry. \* \* \* We must carry on, steadfast in the ideals and faithful in the warfare, that has given glory to all true Knights of the Temple."

Our beloved contemporary, "Bill" Sir Knight W. B. Baldwin, has passed his facile pen to Sir Knight Oliver D. Everard, who carries on, wearing well the mantle of his lovable predecessor, who passed on January 8, 1938.

From the report of the Committee on Educational Committee we find that \$29,845.65 has been paid on principal, and \$10,369.52 received as interest from all sources. With the close of 1936, 1,549 loans had been granted to students. 862 have been paid in full. Most of the delinquents, whose notes were placed in the hands of the attorney for collection, are now making payments. 55 new applications were passed on favorably during 1937.

From the Address of Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master we quote:

"Every Grand Commandery and every Subordinate Commandery has problems of its own to solve, and the only one of those problems that seems to be common to all the Grand Commanderies is the question of continued loss of membership which has occurred in our ranks over a period of the last ten years. \* \* \* There is too much automobile and too much radio and too much movie theater and too much poverty and too much hard luck and a lot of this and a lot of that scattered around everywhere.

"But the one great thought, as I see it, and to which I want to call your attention, is that we do not put on the cap that we ought to wear, and that is that these losses have been very largely, if not almost wholly, due

to our own fault. Now, from the returns that I get from all over the country, I can say to you that the Templar atmosphere is clearing up. It is better than it was, very much better. There are more knightings. There are fewer suspensions for non-payment of dues. There are fewer demits asked. But in the aggregate the losses are still continuing at a diminishing rate. \* \* \* I just want to say to you that I think very many of the Constituent Commanderies, I am not sure but most of them, violate two fundamental laws of humanity. And they ought to stop it if they expect to get anywhere. \* \* \* There is one thing where I think our Constituent Commanderies, very many of them, fall by the wayside. \* \* \* I have been in Constituent Commanderies and seen the work put on in a way that will disgrace a child.

"If you want a member who is interested and will be a good member for you, you want to interest him in the beginning. And when you take him into your Commandery and put on the work in such a way that he goes away with the impression, 'Well, that is all bunk ritualism, not impressive, I don't care anything for that,' you have lost the very first and important effect in getting your members interested in the work and in the ideals of your Commandery. \* \* \* I believe that Templar Masonry, all kinds of Masonry, has got to do something for its members and for others besides running a ritual mill and acting as a sponge, absorbing everything that its members can give to the organization, but maintaining an organization which does nothing for its individual members. \* \* \* Keep the members in the habit of coming and maintaining their attendance.

"You have always got somebody in your Commandery who is competent to tell you something about the history and the ideals which we have adopted from those Knights of old who sacrificed everything for the protection of Christianity. And there is no higher job that Templar Masonry can do today than to post its members in regard to the communistic movements that are going on in this country and telling them that, while Masonry as an organization expresses no political opinions whatever, an organization to promote truth and liberty can always say to its individual members as they go out of the Asylum door, 'It is up to you to oppose and as far as your ability goes to destroy the things which in your community are saying that there is no God, that religion is the opium of the people, and that seeks to destroy the entire social order as we know it.' That is the fundamental tenet and principle of Communism today. \* \* \* Only a short time ago, right almost next door to me in the town where I live, I learned of a Communist camp for children, where they had had three hundred children during the summer, teaching them communistic principles and using the United States flag for a doormat. \* \* \* Find out what they are doing in your communities, and do the best you can to be a conservative force to oppose them. That is a job we are all sworn to. Why not try and do it? \* \* \* Sometimes I think we are too quiet about our affairs. We do not let the people know what we are doing. We do not advertise our Education Foundation. We do not let the average Sir Knight know that in the last ten years we have helped thirty thousand students to get an education which they never would have had if it had not been for the help given them by the Educational Fund. We do not tell our Sir Knights that we have got money to assist worthy students to go through college to get an education. \* \* \* These things we all want to promote and thereby arouse a new interest in our Order and get back some of our members who, perhaps through misfortune, have had to drop by the wayside. We want to get some new blood, some young men."

Space at disposal forbids more liberal quotation. Other phases of the

Grand Master's addresses before Grand Conclaves are brought out in the particular reviews. This should be an incentive to read them. However, I should add this from the Grand Master's address:

"I have given all of my time since I was made Grand Master—I quit my own business entirely—I am giving all my time to the work of the Grand Mastership; and I am just trying to see if I cannot do something to arouse some of the dead ones and see if there is any life in them. \* \* \* So I leave you with this message, assuring you that it comes from the bottom of my heart and that it is based upon my observation and experience in visiting all over the United States."

Truly, our Grand Master is a consecrated and valiant Knight. May our God, and our Great Captain preserve him in health and strength to continue the good fight in which he has so courageously enlisted. The will to win is half the battle.

Numerous other impressive short talks by distinguished guests were made. Sir Knight Clyde P. Love, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Pennsylvania, uttered words that sound a deep chord in the heart of this writer, when he said:

"It seems to me at this time, at the beginning of a new year of Templary, particularly those of us who have taken part here should give voice to the prayer that God in His wisdom will touch our hearts with new love, greater inspiration for Christianity and for this great Order. As we go out into our communities, we might let the people there who come in contact with us believe and know that we are of men who will not fail, that we stand for Christianity."

SIR KNIGHT LOUIS H. WIEBER,  
Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT W. EDWIN PALMER,  
Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Cleveland, October 11-12, 1939.

## OKLAHOMA

As we open the Proceedings of this middle west virile Grand Commandery convened in its Forty-third Annual Conclave at the bustling oil capital of Tulsa, on May 3-4, 1938, we find a determined looking Sir Knight in full Templar uniform and designated as Merl P. Long, Grand Commander, 1937-1938. Sir Knight Long came at the age of four from California, with his parents, to Oklahoma, in 1893. His biographer says of him:

"Our distinguished Frater is a man possessed with that rare combination of great ability, a sense of duty, and the perseverance and will to do \* \* \* plus a courteous and pleasant manner."

These are the qualifications of a successful man, and Grand Commander.

The Grand Commandery was called to order, May 3, and lines were formed and paraded the business section of Tulsa, and ended at the First Presbyterian Church, where the Sir Knights participated in Divine Service. The full official Grand Commandery line was in attendance.

Later the Grand Commandery was convened in the Masonic Temple in due form. Immediately Sir Knight Jewel P. Lightfoot, Right Eminent Grand Commander of Knights Templar of the Grand Commandery of Texas, and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master of Knights Templar, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., was announced and duly introduced, with the ceremonies due his official rank, at which time he extended the personal greeting of the Grand Master to the Conclave, informing them that the Grand Master hoped to be able to make a personal visit later in his term of office. He also called attention to the absence in the parade of Flags and Beaucents, saying that in Texas each Commandery represented in a parade carried an American Flag and Beaucant. He further stated that in Texas no drill team can compete without attending Divine Service, and that forms, ceremonies and rituals, both in the Church and in Masonry, are essential to their enduring.

Following this other distinguished guests were duly introduced. The formal reception of thirty-two Grand Representatives of other Grand Jurisdictions near the Grand Commandery of Oklahoma then followed. In welcoming them the Grand Commander said in part:

"A closer communion between the Grand Jurisdictions is needed now more than ever before. With the advent into the world of a great many 'isms' causing changes in government and in the rights and privileges of the governed, and a growing exhibition of zeal, enthusiasm, devotion and sacrifice for the tenets and realization of those 'isms' it is becoming more and more apparent that the need of a Christian people, in fact one may say, the salvation of a Christian people, rests no longer in a complacent attitude toward the Christian Religion, but in a great exemplary zeal, a greater exemplary enthusiasm, a greater exemplary devotion and in a greater exemplary sacrifice for the Christian Faith and for the benefits that faith brings, than is displayed for those innovations which are mocking at, and wherever possible minimizing and destroying that Faith."

Followed then the Address of the Grand Commander. The Grand Commander expresses heart-felt appreciation to the line officers for their loyal and faithful service and co-operation. He reports that the officers of the Constituent Commanders have rendered invaluable service during the year and says:

"It has always been my feeling that the Grand Commandery should adopt and practice toward the Constituent Commandery an attitude of helpful co-operation and guidance, using the privileges of Templar law and procedure to assist rather than curb their activities."

A number of dispensations were issued to cover routine matters. No decisions were called for during the year. The Grand Commander

was active in visiting Constituent Commanders during the year, in this he was ably supported by his line officers.

On Condition of the Order he reports:

"Our loss in members is somewhat smaller proportionately than in the Chapter and Council for the year 1937, but still a loss. I have been advised of considerable activity in many of our Commanderies and Chapters since the close of the year and the prospects of getting on the right side of the ledger are much better."

From the report of the Committee on Educational Foundation we learn that 25 loans have been paid in full and 14 new loans were made during the year. Students are turning to the Government for loans. As a result they have \$10,000.00 invested in Government Bonds, and a cash reserve of some \$7,856.00. We note further that students notes to the extent of \$3,239.00 were charged off. It looks to us that other methods than the loan channel are due for consideration if we are to be of benefit to youth in the way of education.

Scholarship to be awarded to children of members of the Masonic Fraternity have been suggested. This is a suggestion that may well be given our most careful consideration, provided such scholarships are financed from interest earned on the principal of which the Foundation is now using as working capital. This plan would practically eliminate the heavy expense now entailed in making, accounting, and final collection of loans made under existing plans. The problem of collection and losses would automatically disappear. Too, the scholarships would go to serious-minded students since the awards would be hedged about with necessary qualifications.

Sir Knight Jewel P. Lightfoot, Right Eminent Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Texas, and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master held the Conclave spellbound for an hour with a delightfully interesting and informative address. I quote a few highlights, as reported by the Eminent Grand Recorder:

"He recounted the rise of dictators in many quarters of the world and pointed out their effect upon the religious activities of the nations as well as the serious limitations imposed upon the freedom of thought, freedom of speech, and the precious privilege of worshiping God according to the dictates of the individual conscience. He pointed out that in those countries where Masonry is strong the people still enjoy these rights; but in countries where Masonry is weak or struggling for existence the people have lost their freedom of thought and action religion has been assaulted, and in some cases seriously restricted where the beneficent Orders of Masonry have been banned. \* \* \* Sir Knight Lightfoot strongly urged the fraternity to be watchful of its rights and to safeguard our country against a further drift from our ancient moorings."

#### REVIEW

The Proceedings include a summary prepared by Templar Reviewer Sir Knight Clarence Brain, but no formal Review. The passing of former

Reviewer, Edson A. McMillan, is feelingly referred to. We add our personal tribute to his record as a true Templar, filled with the Templar spirit.

SIR KNIGHT RICHARD E. NEWHOUSE,  
Tulsa, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT JAMES A. LATHIM,  
Muskogee, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Oklahoma City, May 2-3, 1939.

#### OREGON

Sir Knight Edwin O. Potter adorns the frontispiece of the Oregon Proceedings in full Templar uniform, as the Grand Commandery convened in its Fifty-second Annual Conclave in the Masonic Temple in Portland April 22, 1938, with all Grand Officers present, together with a constitutional number of Constituent Commanderies represented, and with many distinguished visitors present.

The good-will existing with its neighboring State to the north was amply evidenced by the attendance of the Grand Commander and his Grand Captain of the Guard, together with four Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders, all of whom were most cordially welcomed by the Grand Commander.

Received under special escort as the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment was Sir Knight and Reverend Mark A. Matthews, one time Grand Prelate of the Grand Encampment. Likewise 36 Grand Representatives of Sister Jurisdictions near the Grand Commandery of Oregon were received and welcomed. Six Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders were present.

Sir Knight Edwin O. Potter, Right Eminent Grand Commander, in presenting his address, said:

"I am conscious that my administration of the office of Grand Commander can be justly criticized for lack of stress upon the observance of the Ritual, especially in the Tactics of the Order. The only excuse I can offer for this is that time was very short, and I was personally of the opinion that the most urgent need of the Order at this time was stress upon the foundation principles upon which Templarism rests, and to combat the all too prevalent disregard of the vital elements of spiritual life, social justice and fraternal responsibilities. \* \* \* A review of existing conditions, and a consideration of the many experiments and applied remedies that have failed, present a picture so appalling, as to produce discouragement and lack of hope.

"But the result of a thoughtful consideration, unselfishly pursued with truth and justice ever uppermost in the mind of the investigator, must always, finally, resolve the problem. And it is not surprising that such an investigation has brought an expression from the minds of fraternalists, statesmen, and churchmen alike, that the only effective cure for the

alarming social unrest of today is an appreciation of, and adherence to, and the love for, the words of wisdom spoken, and the life of unselfish service, lived by the Great Emmanuel. \* \* \* The loss of chivalry is one of the signs of decadence. \* \* \* It is a tribute to the consecrated Motherhood and home. This kind of chivalry must return—must be recreated and become one of the ruling incentives of mankind. Politeness, courtesy, reverence, humility and worship of Sacred things, make for progress and civilization, and without these, civilization decays."

The Grand Commander visited all but two of the Commanderies, and these two were contacted by reason of their co-operation in joining with nearby Commanderies at Inspection. One dispensation was issued to "All Commanderies," authorizing them to receive and act upon petitions for the Orders at the same Stated Conclave, during March and April 1938, in order to obtain a number of candidates for the class which will receive the Orders, Red Cross and Malta at the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery in April. This conferral on a class of 25 on the evening of April 22 was the outstanding feature of the Conclave. The Order of Malta was conferred Saturday afternoon April 23 on a class of 37, by a team from Oregon Commandery No. 1, and in a most praiseworthy manner.

The report of the Educational Foundation Committee is interestingly drawn. Optimistic in tone. Comprehensive in its arrangement. It shows that since organization, 324 loans have been made to students, amounting to \$60,176.00; repaid, \$44,803.50. Some loans charged off, and from these \$165.00 has been collected. Four loans were made during the period just closed. Doubtless Government activity in the loan business has curtailed Foundation loans to some extent.

Those who missed the sermon before the Conclave, assembled on the afternoon of April 22, missed an epochal and inspiring address. Sir Knight and Reverend David T. Robertson, D. D., and Grand Prelate, spoke on "We are still Democrats." It should be given here in full, but space limits forbid me. But I must slip in a few highlights for the reader's edification. Says the Grand Prelate:

"Democracy is not a recent thing. It is not an 'ism' concocted by visionaries and foisted upon the people from above or below. Democracy as articulated and instrumented in laws and institutions of the United States of America, is the product of ages of experiences of mankind in their endeavors to provide a way of national and social life that should secure the largest measure of well-being to the people. Communism attempts to take away from the people who have, and give to those who have not. There is no appeal to initiative except in the behalf of the whole society. \* \* \* Both Communism and Fascism are species of Radicalism. One comes out of the reeking ditch on the left hand, and the other has crawled out of the pit of hell on the right hand. \* \* \* Something seems to have happened to the American character. The good old, stable, American stock that could accept difficulty and muddle through it courageously, is being undermined.

"The willingness to work is disappearing, and the old virtues of frugality and thrift are disappearing. The thing upon which Americans

have prided themselves, for years, namely their independence, is becoming a thing of the past. Men and women have become accustomed to living without labor, and have lost all willingness to labor, even when given an opportunity. They prefer charity to effort. Their independence is gone. They have become parasites, and worse, willing parasites. \* \* \* There has developed an entirely new approach toward life—by which we expect the government to do things for us which our fathers expected to do for themselves. The result of this whole social situation is, that if the average citizen finds himself in a bad spot, he does not look to himself for the remedy, but he looks to the government.

"Therein is a dangerous state of affairs. We cannot delegate authority for all of life to society. Much of it must be retained by the individual. This is not only true politically, but psychologically as well. \* \* \* There is one thing the government cannot do for a man, and that is to give him moral stamina. The individual must provide that for himself. The government cannot give you common sense. You must develop that for yourself. The government cannot give you good judgment, you must learn that for yourself. \* \* \* Is it not time we were done with ghost dances? Isn't it about time we foreswore the croakings of despair and got into step again with the spirit of America?"

To this we shout a loud AMEN!

Easter, Ascension and Christmas services are not included in the Proceedings. The Personal Representative of the Grand Master made an interesting address.

#### REVIEW

There is no Review. The Proceedings are of the better class of workmanship. Not stapled, and so lie flat for reading, adding somewhat to the Reviewer's comfort.

SIR KNIGHT J. ALTON THOMPSON,  
Bend, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT D. RUFUS CHENEY,  
Portland, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Portland, April 10, 1939.

#### PENNSYLVANIA

The Eighty-fifth Annual Conclave was convened in Philadelphia May 24, with Sir Knight Louis U. Strassburger, Right Eminent Grand Commander, presiding, and all Grand Officers present. Division No. 1, composed of ten Commanderies, was host to the Grand Commandery.

The social events of the Conclave began with Sunday afternoon with a reception and informal acquaintance tea tendered the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Officers and other Sir Knights, in the ballroom of the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel.

Divine Services were held Sunday evening at the Holy Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church, with the sermon by Sir Knight and Rever-

end William Barnes Lower, D. D., Grand Prelate. Interest in this service was attested by the fact that hundreds were unable to enter the crowded edifice.

Monday May 23, was devoted to registration, sight-seeing trips over the city and nearby towns and historic spots, including Valley Forge, and the evening a reception by the Grand Commander and his staff to all Sir Knights and their ladies, in Templar Hall, Bellevue-Stratford Hotel. Currently other receptions were given by the various Commanderies.

Tuesday morning an imposing Templar parade was staged. Doubtless many a sight-seer was deeply impressed with a strong desire to enlist with such a noble body of avowed Christian Soldiers, as they reasoned within themselves, that from the music, the banners, and the silver and gold crosses embroidered on their uniform, there must be a background of sincere religious experience to cause these men as professed followers of the Saviour of men to boldly parade in His name and under His Banner. Thus do we let our light shine. Then after the glory of the parade, and back again in the channels of daily life we are to continue to shed the light of that Living Faith, that all men may know that we are truly His evangelists. Exhibition drills followed later in the day. In all, this was an outstanding Conclave and must have made a deep impression on the public mind.

Past Grand Commanders' Association held their Annual Meeting Monday evening, May 23, with Sir Knight Herbert R. Laird, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, presiding. Many distinguished guests were present. An appetizing dinner preceded the business of the evening.

And now, back to the Conclave, which we left in the act of convening. The members of the Conclave were made welcome to Philadelphia, by Sir Knight Honorable Robert R. Lewis, Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, who in a few words made the assemblage feel right at home. In the language of the Sir Knight Albert T. Hanby, "It is a beautiful gesture." The Grand Master in the course of his remarks said:

"You have referred to the fact that this body is honored in being permitted to meet in this room. May I say, Sir Knights, in my estimation this assembly honors this room, for we are all loyal to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, all being members of Subordinate Lodges. I am proud to have served in a Commandery of Knights Templar and other Masonic Bodies. At this time I must temporarily wear the insignia of Grand Master. I would much rather wear the uniform of a Past Commander, which I am entitled to wear, and I do not hesitate to say that of all the Masonic work it has been my privilege to participate in, I have had none that I enjoyed more than acting as Commander in conferring the Order of the Temple."

A wonderful tribute!

Now to continue with Sir Knight Albert T. Hanby in his feeling response to the welcome, who in concluding said:

"This is the City of Brotherly Love, and when we go hand in hand with each other, we are carrying out our Masonic lessons and also those of the Great Teacher of Galilee. I hope when each of you return to your city or hamlet you can say with due appreciation that it was good to have been here, and that God is in His Temple, and all is right with the world."

Many distinguished visitors were then received. Among them Sir Knight and General Walter A. Delameter, Right Eminent Grand Warder of the Grand Encampment, and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Knights Templar, U. S. A., also Sir Knight William Moseley Brown, Right Eminent Grand Captain of the Guard, Grand Encampment, U. S. A. We are glad to note the smiling face of our good friends Arthur D. Bacon, representing Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and Clyde P. Love, representing our own beloved Jurisdiction, Tennessee, among the listed Grand Representatives.

Now we come to the Report of Sir Knight, Louis U. Strassburger, Right Eminent Grand Commander, whose soldierly portrait adorns the opening pages of the Proceedings. Seeing it we anticipate great things of him. But we pause for the moment to extend to him our personal sympathy in the loss of his beloved wife, on June 15, 1937, as set forth in his report. His year of service was filled with good works. His appreciation of his responsibility as the head of the largest Grand Commandery of the Grand Encampment, expressed in the words in his opening:

"With the last farewells said and the congratulations and best wishes of my many friends lingering in my ears, I started for home, sobered with the consciousness of that which lay before. I felt that a great responsibility was mine, to carry forward the great work of my predecessors in Grand Commandery, to place the standard of Christian Knighthood on a loftier plane than where they left it, was indeed a herculean task, for they had wrought wisely and builded well and I must live, work and devote my utmost efforts to preserve what they intrusted to me."

This gives us the true measure of the man. To read his report pertaining to visitations is an inspiration in itself. One of the outstanding events recorded is his visit to Phoenixville, and attendance at the open air religious service under the auspices of the local Commandery, Jerusalem Commandery No. 15, Sunday, September 19, 1937. With two bands in the parade from the Masonic Temple to Reeves Park, 250 Sir Knights in uniform, a mounted escort of 20 Sir Knights for the Grand Commander, the citizenry must have experienced the thrill of a lifetime as they viewed the parade and attended the service. No doubt many men were inspired with a desire to become members of such an organization, to be motivated by its ideals and objectives. Several reports occur where religious services were held in connection with the Grand Commander's visit, all of which indicates the high spiritual level of Pennsylvania Templar.

We note with special interest the Grand Commander's visit to Wilmington, Delaware, to install the officers of St. John's Commandery, subordinate to the Grand Encampment, on May 12, 1938. May 20, we find him in Wilkes-Barre, making the closing visit of his State-wide tour.

Speaking there he voiced this: As it was the last official visit of your Grand Commander, he tried to stress the importance of this Christian Order in maintaining these principles which were fundamental in the upbuilding of this nation, which had its foundation rooted in belief of the existence of the Eternal Jehovah and in His Son, Jesus Christ. "By their fruits ye shall know them."

Here all the ear-marks of a truly Christian Knight are in high evidence.

The Grand Commander reports the observance of Christmas, Easter and Ascension Days by various Commanderies throughout the State. However, it is not unanimous. But it should be by all means. These days are key days in Templary and should be most devoutly observed. With these out, Templary is also out. These days and the Personality about whom they center are the life of and reason for our great Order.

In the Grand Commander's recommendations we find that he discovers that keeping a Grand Officer confined to one section of the State during his passing up the line is detrimental to the best development of the Officer as well as the Grand Commandery, and recommends that such section designation be left to the Grand Commander.

Right here we will ask pardon for our impudence and offer the suggestion that Pennsylvania try the Kansas plan of giving the ascending line officers a new section each year, as they move up the line, which results in a full coverage of the State by the time the officer becomes Grand Commander; he arrives with a full appreciation of conditions existing throughout the State, and in excellent position to adopt an intelligent policy of administration for the advancement of Templary.

The Grand Commander concludes with a prayer full worthy of being included in this review in the hope that readers of it may catch, and be fired by its spirit and timeliness. Here it is:

"And now in conclusion, for our beloved Order I pray to Almighty God that we who have pledged ourselves at Thy Holy Altar to practice and defend the religion as founded by Thy dear Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, guide and so direct us that we may exemplify in our lives His blessed teachings that this great Order of Christian Knighthood may grow in grace and power. Raise up within our membership men that shall be Thy messengers of hope and peace, and lead us to the attainment of our ideals. Deliver us from despondency and doubt and grant that we may put on the breastplate of righteousness so that we may battle successfully against those that would dethrone Thee and repudiate Thy Son our Lord. Bless the Officers of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Commandery of this State of our separate Commanderies. Imbue them with the strength of Thy Holy Spirit that they may lead us in the upbuilding of Thy Kingdom upon earth and in the growth of our Order. This we ask in the name of Him whose cross we wear, Thy Son, our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen."

Thus closes Sir Knight Louis U. Strassburger's report of his work

for the Templar year just closed. Throughout his burning zeal for Templary is pre-eminent.

We note from the Grand Recorder's report that the number of members suspended represents 5% of the present membership, while those "resigned" represent about 1% while, the deaths represent 2.8%. On the other hand the gains by Knighthing and admissions represent but 1.3%. As we study the figures submitted by the Grand Recorder, we realize that the "depression" has left its mark on Templary in marked degree. However, we are fully cognizant that the spirit of Templary is both active and zealous in this great State.

From the report of the Educational Foundation we find that during fourteen years a total of \$526,838.00 has been loaned to students, numbering 1,187. Of these 658 have repaid in full. 529 accounts are open, varying in age from one to eleven years. The total amount of the accounts amounts to \$183,725.53. On this situation the report comments:

"The program of extended time for repayment granted to those deserving borrowers who because of lack of employment and conditions with which they have to contend, have been unable to comply with repayment requirements functions most satisfactorily for Foundation and borrower. It helps the morale of and encourages the latter and goes far in maintaining a contact which is beneficial to all concerned."

The report develops further:

"Many who with limited means are still assisting in the support of parents; many have married and are going still further in debt; some who seem to lack the desire to work and make no real effort to hold positions once secured and there are those apparently possessing no sense of honor, who ignore all collection efforts of the Foundation and their recommenders. These latter are now in the hands of lawyers for collection."

In Pennsylvania the Foundation is available to children of affiliated Pennsylvania Knights Templar; affiliated Pennsylvania Master Masons, who are firm believers in the Christian religion, and are not resigned or suspended Knights Templar; in their Junior and Senior years in college, these being understood to be their final two years of work. Says the report:

"Government allotment of funds to students continues to lessen the demand for loans from this and similar institutions."

Closing, the report declares:

"Many of these aided by the Foundation are on the high road leading to business and professional success. They are those whose lives are guided by the teachings of Christianity; who have a high sense of honor and who are in the making, citizens upon whom the nation can depend, and in whom the Knights Templar may take just pride."

From the report of the Committee on Finance we quote as follows:

"As of April 30, 1938, our membership has declined to 20,057, and our expenditures exceeded our income to show a deficit for the Templar year

of \$4,414.28. \* \* \* Your committee feel that while every effort must be made to conserve the funds of Grand Commandery, it is essential that appropriations be provided for worthwhile Templar activities."

Sir Knight David J. Davis was elected Grand Commander, and following installation made an interesting address from which we quote in part:

"It shall be my ardent desire to inculcate and endeavor to practice the moral virtues and impressive Christian teachings of our Order, for, while energy and faithfulness are powerful auxiliaries of success, an upright and honorable life is absolutely necessary to exemplify the solemnity, beauty and excellence of Templary. \* \* \* The real greatness of our Order is in its character and capacity for service. We must be judged from what we do, rather than from what we profess. The gospel of service should be made the mission of our lives. \* \* \* We must stem the tide of receding membership, reclaim Fraters lost by resignation and suspension, strive for the addition of new members to increase the strength and broaden the service of our Commanderies, to the end that our wonderful institution may wield a fine and greater influence for good throughout the jurisdiction."

This augurs well! "God speed thee on thy way."

#### REVIEW

The seventy-two pages of Review is the product of that master of the pen, Sir Knight Arthur D. Bacon, and is replete with statistics, quotations and comment. His kind and generous expressions concerning this writer is deeply appreciated.

SIR KNIGHT DAVID J. DAVIS,  
Scranton, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT JOHN W. LAIRD,  
Philadelphia, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Scranton, May 23, 1939.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA

The Thirty-second Annual Conclave was convened in the city of Camden on Wednesday, April 13, with Sir Knight W. Robin Zemp, Right Eminent Grand Commander, presiding, and all other Grand Officers present. To add color and interest to the occasion, nine of the twelve Past Grand Commanders were present. Fourteen of the fifteen Commanderies of the Jurisdiction were represented. Twenty-four Grand Representatives answered roll call and were welcomed by the Grand Commander.

Sir Knight Louis U. Strassburger, Right Eminent Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania, and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master Grand Encampment being found in waiting was received under escort, together with Sir Knight Harry J.

Bell Grand Junior Warden of Pennsylvania, and Sir Knight Walter F. Going, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, and cordially welcomed by the Grand Commander.

Following the committee appointments as announced by the Grand Commander, he presented his address. I quote in part:

"When I assumed this office I did so with great hopes and expectations, some of which have been realized, but many have not. My thought then was that we had reached the low ebb; that even then the tide was turning and that there must now necessarily begin the flow of material to our Commandery doors with which we could, and would rebuild our ranks. In this I was mistaken. Letters to Commanders and Recorders brought me the sad information of continued inactivity and apparent lack of interest in the work to be done. Perplexing condition in our personal businesses, turmoil, confusion and unrest throughout our country have crowded from our minds the thoughts of the very things that make for peace, contentment and the realization and enjoyment of many of the better and finer things of life. This only shows the more clearly and forcibly the need of the teachings of our Order in this age of strife, the need for us to take time to make the personal contacts afforded by attending our Conclaves.

"We need to have patience, perseverance, courage, loyalty and faith. Where can these be better taught than in our Asylums? Where should they be exemplified if not in the lives of Templars? Even though our number be small, yet if we carry on with faith in the Christian principles upon which our Order is founded, teaching them in our Asylums and exemplifying them in our daily lives, who knows but that our efforts may help stem the great wave of unrest, distrust and loss of respect for such things sacred that threatens to sweep over our entire land. Sir Knights! we owe our loyalty to our better thoughts, and to the Great Captain of our Salvation. As Templars, the responsibility is mine, and is yours!"

Yes Sir Knight Zemp, it is plainly up to all of us, some 270,000 of us who still remain under the banner of THE CROSS to let our light shine. "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."

On visitations the Grand Commander reports:

"I have visited only a few of the Commanderies of our State. Few Conclaves were called. I had the opportunity of calling on some of the officers of our Commanderies in several cities, but must report that only a very few held out any great hope of work being done during the year."

On Christmas Observance he says:

"Telegrams were received by me and reports came to me from nine Commanderies holding this service. Most of these were more largely attended than in former years. My own Commandery had twenty-one present, among whom were several Lodge members. \* \* \* And may I say that as a direct result of this meeting, one of our Master Masons who attended, being impressed with the beauty and solemnity of the service and by the talks made, has since been knighted in our Commandery."

Good Work! Sixty per cent of the Commanderies observing our Lord's natal day. What of the other forty per cent? Have they bought

a piece of ground, and must needs see it, or five yoke of oxen that they must prove, or married a wife and therefore could not set aside time to honor our Great Captain, whose coming into the world had much to do with the fact that we are citizens of a great nation whose corner stone is liberty to worship God?

On Condition of the Order the Grand Commander reports:

"Our Grand Recorder's report shows a net loss in membership during the year of 126, due largely to some Commanderies clearing their rolls of names of those no longer interested. One hundred fourteen were suspended. The report also shows forty were reinstated. No Knights were created during 1937. A few of our Commanderies are holding Conclaves more or less regularly; some apparently are not making the effort to do so. Some of our Commanders and Recorders answer letters and give information promptly and courteously, while others appear indifferent to the responsibilities of their offices. \* \* \* If our Constituent Commanderies will meet four or five times yearly; invite and urge members attendance, and open in form, followed by a few short, appropriate talks, learn the work and look around for new material now coming up through our Councils and Chapters, I feel that much progress can be made during the coming year. Let's try it!"

From this distance we say Amen! Considering the existence of good roads, and possibly an automobile in most Templar families, it would appear that a survey looking to consolidation of the poorly equipped Commanderies, as to Asylum and stage settings and numerical strength and active membership, would materially strengthen Templary, and at the same time automatically eliminate disinterested officers. Templary must function effectively or become the object of jeers and sneers from the worldly minded, of whom there are many.

The report of Committee on Doings of Grand Officers is most interesting and should receive the particular attention of the South Carolina Templars. To quote:

"Your committee has long recognized the importance of official visitations, and fraternally suggests that special attention be given to them. Often the Grand Commander is ready to make a visit, but the Commandery does not hold a Conclave. It takes a lot of hard work to overcome apathy and indifference, but, it can be done. The special effort put forth to induce our Commanderies to perform their duties, least of all to hold their regular Conclaves, will be rewarded by an awakened enthusiasm. \* \* \* A loss of 126 in membership, as reported under 'State of the Order' can be turned into a gain if we can overcome the indifference and selfishness of men who are supposed to make up the great body of Knights Templar."

Looking at the picture as presented in the Proceedings, we feel there are too many Conclaves scheduled by some Commanderies. Two State Conclaves in one month taken in connection with the possibility of Lodge, Chapter and Council meetings to keep in mind, is pretty sure to be burdensome. Should business warrant a Special Conclave can always be arranged. We note too that one Commandery holds its Conclave the second

Tuesday after the first Monday. Doubtless a reason, but sounds like the first Friday on or before the Full Moon. However, "Time tells all."

The report of the Committee on Educational Foundation submits a concise report which, while it fails to show the number of new loans granted during the year, shows \$7,250.00 loaned to students, principal collected of \$6,175.96, and interest amounting to \$1,351.07. Loans outstanding are shown as \$33,453.58. Accrued interest as, estimated, \$9,105.19.

The Committee on Necrology pays respectful tribute to the passing of Reverend and Sir Knight T. T. Walsh, D. D., Grand Prelate Emeritus, saying:

"He was a careful scholar and writer on religious subjects and an authority on liturgical worship. These talents he devoted to the beauty and enrichment of our Knights Templar Liturgy. To his able and devoted labors we are indebted for the form of service and much of the prayers used in our services. As Grand Prelate for many years, he was a familiar figure to all Sir Knights and won their high regard and affection."

#### REVIEW

That prepared by the Official Reviewer for the Grand Encampment is incorporated with 100 copies of the Proceedings.

SIR KNIGHT MARION A. PARK,  
Columbia, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT JOSEPH LINDSAY,  
Chester, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Gaffney, April 12, 1939.

#### SOUTH DAKOTA

Spearfish was the scene of the Fifty-fourth Annual Conclave, held on August 29-30-31, 1938, with Sir Knight William R. Cleland, Right Eminent Grand Commander, presiding. During the year thirty Sir Knights received the accolade, twenty-two were received and restored, while 43 sheathed their swords, having won their way into the presence of the Great Captain of their Salvation. Forty-seven others demitted. It was found necessary to suspend sixty-nine, resulting in a net loss to the Jurisdiction of 108. Let us dwell in the hope that ere the year has accomplished another cycle many of the sixty-nine will have found it possible to be again in position to lawfully wield their sword as Knights Templar. We find that twenty-four student loans were made during the year.

The Grand Commander's Address reveals the mind of one steeped in the traditions of the Masonic Craft, and zealous in the cause of Christian Knighthood. Opening his address he says:

"As I assign myself this task I am going to admit to you that I am possessed by conflicting emotions. Any report and address of this character can have but two characteristics, first, a review of the activities of the past year, and second, recommendations as to activities for the future. I now recall that when I was chosen as your leader last year that I had a number of things in mind that I proposed to lay before you as an objective for the year, but I looked in vain in our Conclave program for such an opportunity. It had not been our custom to do so. By the time I was installed in office many of you had departed and the remainder stood hat in hand ready to start for home, and were in no attitude of mind to listen to or counsel about a program for the coming year.

"We have not been together as a Grand Commandery nor in a body as Grand Officer since that time. Now ere my year is closing you offer me this golden opportunity to address you on matters that, could I have spoken of them a year ago at my installation, might have worked some constructive benefit. I have endeavored through the year to reach you by General Orders, but I have also learned that these were not very effectual. By the time they had reached their destination they were old and when read were heard only by a few who least needed to hear them. I shall refer to these matters later in this report for your consideration.

"In reporting of the past I fully realize and all too well, that it is a closed book. Many are the things that we might wish to change if we could, and this Conclave may approve or disapprove the things done, but it cannot undo them. As to the future, I also appreciate that the admonitions of an outgoing leader are taken sparingly, at least in the immediate future. Perhaps when they are colored with age they may be referred to.

"In matters of State the memorial address of the outgoing leader is listened to respectfully, while the inaugural address is scanned with keen interest to learn of the program of the future. With these limitations on myself in mind I herewith undertake to give you a report of the activities and condition of your Commandery and make such recommendation as may seem necessary.

"We are assembled here in the city of Spearfish, in the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota, that should have been named Black Mountains. Here we may be refreshed from the heat of the summer plains and thrilled by the grandeur of nature all about us. \*\*\* We are honored by having with us this year the head of Templar Masonry, Sir Knight Mark Norris, Grand Master of Knights Templar of the United States of America. We hope his visit will be as pleasant to him as it will be profitable to us. I am happy to record the presence here of other distinguished guests. Your presence here testifies to the pleasant relations existing between your jurisdictions and our own. We bid you a cordial welcome."

The Grand Commander draws attention to the passing of one esteemed, a landmark in South Dakota Templary, Sir Knight George A. Pettigrew, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, Eminent Past Recorder, Emeritus. It was our pleasure to have met this valiant Knight at various Triennials of the past years.

Of his General Order No. 1, the Grand Commander says:

"I issued a call to each Sir Knight to be vigilant for the good of the Order. I requested each Commander to appoint a special committee on suspensions, demits and reinstatements. I called attention to the words

of our Most Eminent Grand Master Mark Norris relevant to communistic activities in our country and quoted from his recent address at Des Moines, Iowa.

"I urged each Commander to lay out some definite Templar program of activity aside from the conferring of the Orders, as I noticed that where there were no designs on the trestle board, there was confusion among the workmen, lessening of interest and loss in membership. \*\*\* As your Grand Commandr I gave considerable time and thought to the preparation of the General Order, but I admit to you that I was disappointed in the reception it received. I did not understand it at first, but now I am sure I do. My effort was wasted because this Order did not reach the rank and file of our membership. When it was read in conclave the membership was largely absent. (I might add that I have been in Conclaves, and that quite recently, where I hear a Sir Knight say, 'Why take up the time to read all that stuff?') I am convinced that our system of distribution of information is too antiquated. The route through the Recorders is too delayed and does not reach the membership. We need a more direct system of communication, that will go into the hands of each Sir Knight."

Let this writer add to what he said in parenthesis above, that he has discovered that many Recorders are lacking in the respect they properly owe to the Grand Commandery and its Officers, and that their manner of introducing correspondence from the parent body to the membership breeds in them the same disrespect they themselves have developed, so that the reading of Orders or communications from the Grand Officer is looked upon as a chore, or an intrusion upon them. This bodes no good for the body affected. Loyalty to those in authority, a happy recognition of and attention to all communications from them by the subject body develops a proper and active interest in its concerns.

The Grand Commander was active in visitation, but he found it impossible to cover all the Commanderies. He reports a most unusual experience of the Grand Junior Warden, who acted as his Representative in visiting Damascus Commandery No. 10, of Aberdeen, who on that occasion were celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Knighting of Sir Knights George Armantrouth, and John H. Firey, still living in Aberdeen and members of the Commandery. These two men were Knighted December 8, 1887, immediately after the granting of a Charter to the Commandery. Both were present at the celebration. A dinner was served in their honor. Page Ripley, Believe it or not! An event unique and outstanding in Templar annals. We take delight in joining in hearty congratulations and best wishes for many well spent years to come.

Of Interstate Visitations the Grand Commander has many very delightful memories, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, and a return visit to Iowa to the Annual five-day Conclave at Spirit Lake, of which he has much to say in praise of the manner of its conduct. Numerous dispensations were issued to receive and ballot upon petitions at Stated Conclaves. Christmas and Easter Days were well observed throughout the State. However, we feel that these observances should be obligatory on Templars.

Of the Educational Foundation the Grand Commander reports:

"I fully believe that more information should be disseminated with reference to our Educational program. We are not getting the stimulation from this movement that we are entitled to. A spirit of secrecy has been maintained because of the nature of the work, and as a result most of our membership have forgotten that we have such a fund, or that any money is being used for this purpose. A financial bulletin to Recorders to file away in their desk is not sufficient. Every Sir Knight should be made to feel that he has a part in this helpful mission."

On the Hospitaler Movement, the Grand Commander on July 15, 1938, appointed a committee to consider the advisability of inaugurating such a movement under the sponsorship of the Grand Commandery. Their report was to be made during the current Conclave. However, the data in our hands does not give us the result, or the action of the Grand Commandery concerning it.

He speaks of the desirability of forming an organization of Past Commanders, timed to meet the evening before the convening of the Annual Conclave, at a dinner, for a general discussion of matters to later come before the Annual Conclave. This he believes will do much to insure better attendance at Annual Conclaves.

The Grand Commander deplores the absence of an audit by a certified public accountant of the accounts of the Grand Commandery during the past year. He also further deplores the absence of bonds covering the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, and of information as to whether the Recorders and Treasurers of Constituent Commanderies are bonded. Doubtless this was properly taken care of by proper resolutions during the Conclave. However, we have no information as to the action being taken.

The Grand Commander's recommendations were worthy of most serious consideration, viz: A place on the program for the incoming Grand Commander to work out a program for constructive work during the coming year, leadership and teamwork. District meetings for conferral of the Order of Red Cross and Malta in full form, at least three annually. Early instruction and inspections of Commanderies, so they can do efficient work during the year. More publicity for the Educational Fund and getting it to work. Development of the Hospitaler movement. The formation of a Past Commanders' Association. An Annual audit of the books and accounts of the Grand Commandery Officers by a certified public accountant. Provision for direct communication with the individual Sir Knights on Templar matters, rather than through the Commandery Recorder, which channel not only stifles its vitality, but seldom reaches those the message was intended to interest.

This last is a most potent recommendation so far as the individual Sir Knight is concerned. It holds much of good for him. This writer hopes to hear of the adoption of a plan to accomplish this valuable objective.

A soul-stirring message from the Grand Commander setting forth the righteous principles of true Templary, together with great opportunity facing the individual Sir Knight in the daily practice of the tenets of the Templar faith will do much to keep Templar zeal and interest at high tide.

Congratulations Sir Knight Cleland on your constructive zeal for Templary.

#### REVIEW

There is no Review.

SIR KNIGHT WALTER A. HARKNESS,  
Spearfish, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT WILBERT D. SWAIN,  
Sioux Falls, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, time to be set.

#### TENNESSEE

The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar convened in its Seventy-sixth Annual Conclave in the Grand Lodge Building in Nashville, 9:20 a. m., May 16, 1938. A full form opening was exemplified by Nashville Commandery No. 1, in full conformity with the Tactics. Sir Knight Arch Erwin McClanahan, Right Eminent Grand Commander, was received, with his staff, through the lines. The Grand Commandery was then declared duly convened and was led in prayer by Sir Knight and Reverend Prentice Andrew Pugh, Eminent Grand Prelate.

Sir Knight George Fawcett Beezley, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Kansas, and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master was announced in waiting, and was duly received through the lines under escort, and cordially welcomed by the Grand Commander, and conducted to the East. The following visitors were also formally received and welcomed, Sir Knight William Moseley Brown, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Virginia and Right Eminent Grand Captain of the Guard, Grand Encampment; Sir Knight William H. Tester, Official Reviewer, Grand Encampment, U. S. A. and an Eminent Past Commander of Kansas and Tennessee.

The various Committee reports were then called for and duly received. Following this the roll of Grand Representatives was called. To them the Grand Commander extended hearty greetings with the request they report the same to their respective Jurisdictions.

The report of the Committee on Credentials disclosed that every Commandery of the State was represented. Followed the introduction of the Grand Officers of the other Grand Masonic Bodies of the State, who were given a hearty welcome. Sir Knights Beezley and Brown, Right

Eminent Past Grand Commanders of Kansas and Virginia, respectively, were on motion duly elected honorary members of this Grand Commandery.

At this place in the Proceedings we come upon the handsome countenance of the Presiding Grand Commander in full uniform. His address is brief, being well condensed, but fully covering the subject. Ten dispensations were issued, all of which were approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence. During the year Malta Commandery No. 30 was consolidated with Watauga Commandery No. 25, of Johnson City.

The Grand Commander makes due report of attendance at the Fortieth Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U. S. A. In company with him were Sir Knights Clyde Hubert Wilson, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, Mack Shaeffer Harrison, Eminent Grand Generalissimo, Joseph LaFayette Hill, Eminent Grand Captain General, John T. Reynolds, Assistant to the Grand Recorder, and Sir Knights Chandler, Breese, Gerhardt, Griffith, Jeffries, Fox, Evans and Gifford, Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders, and a number of other Sir Knights of this Grand Commandery. Many Sir Knights were accompanied by their wives. The Grand Commander observes:

"Although Tennessee was well represented, our Grand Commandery did not have official headquarters, and I am convinced that at future Triennial Conclaves we should arrange to have the Tennessee delegation all in one hotel, and should establish centrally located headquarters."

I quote the Grand Commander further:

"The appointment of Eminent Sir William H. Tester, Past Commander of St. Elmo Commandery No. 15, as Grand Encampment Reviewer for 1938 is a source of much pride and gratification to the officers and members of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee."

Of the four State Reunions of the year the Grand Commander was able to attend three. The large number of Sir Knights in attendance at these reunions encourages the Grand Commander to feel that great benefit accrues: thinks they should be continued on a carefully planned basis in considering the particular needs of the Commanderies in each locality.

Each of the 22 Commanderies were visited by the Grand Commander in Annual Inspections. He was greatly pleased as a result. I quote:

"In each Commandery except \* \* \* the Order of the Temple was conferred. With few exceptions the work was good, and I want to commend the Prelates especially on their part of the Ritual. Almost without exception their work was outstanding."

Sir Knight Henry J. Porter, Right Eminent Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Alabama was an honored guest at the inspection of Chattanooga Commandery No. 32. His presence added much to the pleasure of the occasion.

The Grand Commander arranged a conference in Nashville the afternoon of January 25, with a number of Sir Knights who were in attendance on Grand Lodge Annual Communication. Much interest was manifested, and much good resulted therefrom.

The Grand Commander stressed the wearing of the Templar uniform at all Annual Conclaves. His special request on all his Committees to do so resulted in a wholehearted response. The writer hopes the idea will become a general practise. There is no use urging the Commanderies to observe the Templar law in this respect unless the Grand Commandery itself sets the example.

The Grand Commander expressed deep regret at being personally unable to accept the many invitations to attend the Annual Conclaves of Sister Jurisdictions. He commends unstintedly the fine service rendered by the Educational Foundation Committee.

The Grand Commander made the following recommendations, all of which were approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence. That Annual Inspections be held early in the Templar year. This will develop early activity in all Commanderies and develop real Templar interest. That the practise of conferring to Order of the Temple by Officers of the Grand Commandery on the evening before the Annual Conclave be made an annual event. That the Educational Foundation Committee be commended for its fine work, and that the Grand Commandery go on record as approving the precautionary methods now being practised in granting new loans. That the practise of holding divisional reunions be continued and that appropriations sufficient to cover them be authorized. That an appropriation be made to the line officers sufficient to cover their expenses in visiting the Commanderies assigned to them. That increased appropriation be made to the Grand Commander and to Grand Inspectors to enable them to make preliminary visits looking to inspection visits. The Grand Recorder's report shows a net loss for the year of 83 members.

The Committee on Educational Foundation report 32 loans paid in full and 10 new loans granted during the past year. Amount of loans charged off during year as uncollectible \$200.00, while interest earned to December 31, 1937, net \$6,889.95. This demonstrates that the Fund is in capable hands.

The Committee on Charity and Religious Observance presented its usual report with appended charts to cover the observance of Christmas and Easter days. Both charts show increased interest over the preceding year. However, there is still abundant room for growth in interest.

The Committee on Finance and Accounts submitted a concise and interesting report covering expenditures of the past year and appropriations for the expenses of the year to come. The nest egg is well guarded by its keepers.

The Committee on Jurisprudence report shows that august assembly to have been in happy vein. They approved everything submitted for their scrutiny, and regard the appointment of their erstwhile Grand Reviewer, by the Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, "with much pride and satisfaction, not only to the members of the Grand Encampment in Tennessee, but to Templary of the Southland." May we here become personal and express our deep appreciation of their unanimous support in soliciting the appointment, and my own sense of the great responsibility entailed in undertaking this service.

#### REVIEW

Sir Knight William H. Tester presented a brief Review of the Proceedings of the various Grand Jurisdictions received, together with a statistical table, "figuratively" presenting the condition of the Order. He finds much that is encouraging. Permit me to quote briefly:

"Were it possible for me to endow, I would thrill each Knight Templar now present with an ardent desire to return home with an overpowering impulse to sell his mind and heart to the promotion of our great Order with the single idea of bringing men of high Christian ideals into our fellowship; men who would conform fully to our laws and regulations as set forth in the form of our Petition for the Orders; men whose sole objective is to display by word and deed in daily life the Templar ideals and in so doing interpret the true American spirit of Democracy. \* \* \* Such minds added to our Order will build us up toward the Templar ideal, making us all stronger and better able to do our part to bring Christ to the world which now so sorely needs Him."

Following the election of officers for the ensuing year, and in accordance with custom a Past Grand Commander's Jewel was presented to the retiring Grand Commander by Sir Knight Joseph T. Meadors, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander. Minutes then read and approved, then prayer by the Grand Prelate, and Grand Commandery adjourned until Wednesday, May 17, 1939.

SIR KNIGHT MACK SHAEFFER HARRISON,  
Memphis, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT THOMAS EARL DOSS,  
Nashville, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Nashville, May 17, 1939.

P. S. Grand Recorders please copy. The Annual Conclave which this Review of Tennessee covers was held on May 18. The printed Proceedings reached my desk in Memphis May 27. I believe this to be a record of efficiency and despatch.

W. H. T.

#### TEXAS

Texas, 1938, lies open before me. On the back of the title page is the legend neatly "boxed": "This book completely composed, printed and bound by the department of printing, Masonic Home and School of

Texas, Fort Worth." Facing this a full page portrait of our Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment Knights Templar, U. S. A., and following this a full-page portrait of Sir Knight George H. Haase, Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Texas, both of course in full Templar uniform.

The Eighty-fifth Annual Conclave convened in Beaumont, April 25, with the full official line in attendance. Twelve Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders also reported present. Among the telegrams of greeting and regrets from absent Past Grand Commanders was one from Sir Knight John Temple Rice, Right Eminent Grand Captain General of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A. Followed, the adoption of a resolution permitting members and visitors to appear in fatigue uniform.

At this juncture Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, was received with full ceremony, and officially welcomed by the Grand Commander. The roll call of Grand Representatives showed thirty-seven present.

Resuming after adjournment for luncheon, a resolution was adopted changing the date of the Annual Conclave from the first to the second Tuesday after Easter.

The Grand Commander presented his report, opening with "The Moving Finger writes," from the Rubaiyat, quoting the fifty-first stanza. He deeply regrets that imperative business engagements prevented his devoting the amount of time he had planned to give to the duties of his high office. The toll of death on the Grand Commandery had been light, no members of the official line having passed on.

Speaking of the Miami Triennial Conclave he was gratified to report that Texas had captured first honors in the Triennial drill competition. This was done by the drill team of Fort Worth, Worth Commandery No. 19, which made a score of 98.1, and which was accomplished in a driving rain. More honor to them. "The drill must go on." Texas may justly feel proud of such an accomplishment in the face of difficulties. Another notable honor came to them in the adoption by the Grand Encampment of a new "Ode to the 'Flag,'" written by Sir Knight Jewel P. Lightfoot, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander.

Four dispensations were issued authorizing changes of Asylum locations. Six for public appearances in uniform. Nine to elect officers out of time. Thirty-six were issued to receive and ballot upon petitions at same Conclave, and one was issued to permit two Commanderies to hold observance of Christmas. No requests were refused.

Sixteen schools of instruction were held at as many different points in the State during the year. On this feature the Grand Commander comments as follows:

"In some of the districts the attendance and interest seemed to be very good but in others not so good, and the thought naturally arises as to whether or not it would be advisable to change our methods somewhat in the future. Possibly greater interest would be created if District Conclaves were held for the purpose of exemplifying the work of conferring the Orders instead of stressing the full form opening ceremonies."

Texas has 81 Commanderies under Charter. Eight rulings were called for during the year, some simple, some unique, some unusual. Simple sample, "Is it permissible to invite members of other Masonic bodies to attend our Christmas Observance?" Unique sample, "Should officers of a Commandery be allowed to wear their jewels continuously or only at Conclaves?" Unusual sample, "Non-resident member offers payment of delinquent dues but states he has become a disbeliever in Christianity. What action shall we take?"

This is a rare case and I quote the Grand Commander's charitable ruling:

"Under article No. 280, after trial, he could be expelled for unknighthly conduct. \* \* \* Since he was straightforward enough to confess his 'disbelief' I suggested his payment be accepted and demit issued him as he would hardly try to reinstate elsewhere and might have a change of heart later on, when his demit would stand him in good stead."

On Condition of the Order the Grand Commander is optimistic. He says everything seems to point to better times ahead for the Commanderies and from my observation I am quite sure things are on the upgrade again. Speaking of losses he says that in 1928 Texas had 89 Commanderies with 18,361 members. At the end of 1937 there were 81 Commanderies with 9,396 members. Further he says:

"Undoubtedly the Order is stronger now, in reality, than it was at its peak of membership, for during the influx of members by the hundreds and thousands, we were creating simply members and very few Knights Templar. \* \* \* Those who are left will unquestionably carry the standard of our Order to greater heights so that our influence for good in the communities where we live will be more keenly felt. \* \* \* In my opinion, WORK and more work, for the Commanderies as a whole and for the Knights individually, is the secret formula for reviving the interest in our Order that seems to be dormant in so many places. \* \* \* Perhaps most of our Knights do not take enough interest in the affairs of the Lodge and Chapter. \* \* \* I regret being forced to say this but my observation has been that some Commanderies are hampered by their election of Recorders who will not or cannot give the office the attention it deserves."

Brother, you said something there! Their tribe is widely scattered! Of Christmas he believes the noble and Knightly thing to do is to remember the widows and orphans with food, flowers and toys, bringing joy into lonely hearts and lives. A few dollars spent in this manner will repay dividends that cannot be measured intrinsically and will justify our existence by doing more work like this in future. Too, he reminds them of the importance of observing our three outstanding Holy Days. We need to concentrate more on our sworn objectives in our Lord's service.

The "KIDD" banner (in memory of Grand Recorder, J. C. Kidd) is issued in a series of nine, one for each of the nine Texas Templar districts, to be competed for annually, the award to be made to the Commandery making the highest rating on full form Commandery opening ceremonies, and at the same time qualifying the winner to compete in the inter-district competition at the Annual Conclaves for the RADFORD cup, donated by Mrs. J. M. Radford, of Abilene, each year. This will develop unusual interest among the drill teams of the various Commanderies and perceptibly raise the standard of work in the various Asylums.

Many Commanderies in the drouth areas have suffered heavily the past few years and have fallen behind in payment of Grand Commandery per capita tax. The Grand Commander has made suitable recommendations to relieve them of some part of their obligation to the Treasury of the Grand Commandery.

From the report of the Committee on Necrology we find that 170 members of the Jurisdiction have put on immortality. Reading this report we note the reference to Subordinate Commanderies of Texas. Doubtless a slip!

This from the report of the Grand Recorder, and a direct answer to the Grand Commander's prayer:

"Page Ripley! All the Commanderies made their returns, and paid their dues."

The Grand Recorder extends especial credit to the Grand Commander for this result. Further in his report we note:

"The record of the membership reported, including the reports for 1937, has all been transcribed on the card record and is complete except the Lodge and Chapter affiliation."

With this completed Texas may conclude to save some \$300.00 per annum now expended in printing Commandery rosters and membership returns in connection with the Annual Proceedings. This amount can be well used in other channels to stimulate interest in the Constituent Commanderies.

It is really inspiring to read the report of the Secretary-Treasurer, Knights Templar Educational Foundation Committee. The loan is active and rendering a real service to Texas youth. It is well administered, applicants must prove to the committee that they are really earnest seekers for education, and are fully conscious of their obligation to repay as stipulated or that their sureties will do so for them. During the life of the Foundation the report indicates that 2,466 students have been assisted to an education. The report quotes three letters received from grateful students that must make every Texas Templar's heart swell with pride as he reads them, 327 loans were made last year, while 247 were paid in full.

The Most Eminent Grand Master's address is reported at length, I quote in part:

"Down at Miami, I said that so far as I could then make any promises, I should try to visit the smaller Grand Commanderies in preference to the larger ones, and that one of the things that I wanted to accomplish most was to put the Educational Funds to the uses for which they were originally designed; to collect, as far as possible, the defaulted notes, and to put to use the invested funds, which one of your committee here has spoken about this afternoon. Naturally, I also wanted to do whatever I could for the benefit of Templary Masonry throughout the United States. \* \* \*

"Now, on your Educational Foundation Fund, Texas has been peculiarly successful, and you deserve great credit for that. I will endorse every word that one of your committee has said to you, to the effect that when you get an application, look the applicant up. Don't do it in a half way or careless manner, because essentially these loans are made on character. If you endorse a man's character over your own signature, without knowing anything about him, you ought to be liable to pay the loan when it is defaulted. You are not doing your duty to the Grand Commandery or to this fund which is expected to last forever. \* \* \* Some chap who has had a loan, when he is asked to pay it back, coolly says, 'Why I was a minor when I signed that note, and I am not liable. I am not going to pay it.' Others say, 'Why, if you insist on the payment of that note, I am going to go into bankruptcy'."

It is certain that some one failed in his duty in telling these young people about our Educational Foundation and in arranging the loan failed to explain that it was not a gift, but a loan to be paid as stipulated. Continuing, the Grand Master says:

"Everybody knows or should know that Masonry in the United States and Canada has been losing membership very rapidly. \* \* \* I believe that a considerable portion of that loss is due to lack of leadership. \* \* \* I want to put it right where it really belongs, and that is on the officers of the Constituent Commanderies. \* \* \* The details of execution must necessarily rest with the officers of the Constituent Commanderies, and there are so many of those who are doing absolutely nothing! Who are not trying to bring their Commandery and their members into activity, who are letting the Commandery stay 'dark' night after night, month after month, without doing anything until the Sir Knights belonging to that Commandery have almost forgotten that there is such an organization. \* \* \* How many of your Commanderies take the trouble to call up your new Sir Knights or take the trouble to get into communication with them and tell them the Commandery is going to meet tonight; come on down, and if he says. \* \* \* 'My machine is out of order,' say, 'All right, I will come over and get you'."

I should consider space and pass on, but this address is so timely I must quote more! I sincerely hope you, Sir Knight, as you read, will be reminded of your own shortcomings, inspired by its spirit to the extent that you carry it into the ranks of your Commandery and get them back into zeal and productive activity in behalf of Templary. Continuing:

"I sometimes wonder how often in a Commandery the ethical side of Templar beliefs and ideals is presented. Do you tell our members what a Knightly character our Lord was? Do you try to guide him to

follow the life that He exhibited? He was obedient to the laws of His country, and His God, and to His earthly parents. He was diligent in the business that He had to do, always ready to do His Father's business, the business of Divine Love. \* \* \* He was physically courageous. He dared to face angry mobs shouting for His life, and to hurl into its teeth the words, 'Woe unto you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, for ye tithe the mint and the anise and the cummin and neglect the weightier matters of the law, justice and judgment. These things you ought to have done'."

This is an address which if written into the secret heart of each true Knight of the Cross would reinvigorate Templary and make it the outstanding influence in the lives of men in and out of the Order and create a tide of inquiry concerning it from those seeking the best things in this life. However, men who will be an asset to the institution should be sought for membership. Men who will become actively interested, not mere passers by.

The report of the Committee on Reports of Grand Officers commends highly the Grand Commander's report. One "permission" and one dispensation for public appearance in uniform were not approved, not being in accord with Templar law. The "permission" case involved the appearance of a few Knights in uniform at the conferring of degrees by a Chapter of DeMolay. The dispensation authorized a Commandery in full uniform to participate in a "Shrine" parade.

Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master installed the newly elected officers. The minutes were read and approved. Adjournment followed.

#### REVIEW

The Grand Encampment Review was incorporated in the Proceedings, making a most attractive volume.

SIR KNIGHT JEWEL P. LIGHTFOOT,  
Fort Worth, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT THOMAS M. BARTLEY,  
Waco, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, San Antonio, April 24, 1939.

#### UTAH

Utah, the land of promise, to those composing the party of Mormons, despairing of peace in Missouri or Illinois, determined in 1846 to move westward, reaching what is now Salt Lake City, July 21, 1847. However, they were not the first white men to come to this section, for in 1540, Coronado sent a party of explorers into this territory which reached the Colorado River, that river of mystery which to this day holds a lure for the adventurous ones.

Now to the Twenty-eighth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Utah, which convened at Park City on May 10, 1938, but whose Proceedings have not yet come from the press. Sir Knight Roland P. Diehl, presided. We regret our inability to have secured, after several requests even a proof copy of his address, now in the hands of the printer.

However, Grand Recorder Sir Knight John M. Dunlap, has kindly given us the following statistics from his records: Members 1938, 831, Knighted, 26; affiliated and restored, 7; died 21; demitted, 18; suspended, 25; expelled, 0; net decrease, 32; number of student loans made during 1937, 7.

Under date of December 8, replying to my inquiry concerning the status of the 1938 Proceedings the present Right Eminent Grand Commander, Sir Knight Glen B. Walker reports as follows:

"Due to illness and unavoidable delay, our Grand Recorder has been unable to secure publication of our 1938 Proceedings and had anticipated getting them out somewhere around the 15th of December."

By today's air mail, December 28, the Grand Recorder reports further delay in completion of publication and sends me the statistics reported herein, for which we thank him, and wish for him a quick return to full health and vigor, and many years of usefulness to his Grand Commandery. We are sure the spirit of Templary is pushing forward with determination to achieve the ultimate in spreading the Gospel of peace on earth to men of good will.

#### REVIEW

There is no Review.

SIR KNIGHT GLENN B. WALKER,  
Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT JOHN M. DUNLAP,  
Salt Lake City, Eminent Grand Recorder

Next Annual Conclave, to be reported later.

#### VERMONT

Vermont presents its retiring Grand Commander Sir Knight Wilbur D. Mower, in full Templar uniform. The Ninety-sixth Annual Conclave was convened in Barre, June 6, with all Grand Officers present. The Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Sir Knight and General Walter A. Delamater, Right Eminent Grand Warder of the Grand Encampment, was received with the honors due his rank, following the reception of many distinguished visitors of other Grand Jurisdictions, and tendered the command of the Grand Commandery. Among these latter we find Sir Knight W. Walter Williamson, Past Most Eminent Grand Master of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada.

From the address of the Grand Commander speaking of the Miami Triennial Conclave we quote as follows:

"Sir Knights, you know not what you miss by not attending these Triennial Conclaves, where you are able to meet the most outstanding men of our great country and to receive an inspiration from this Christian Order which you will never forget. \* \* \* Aside from the almost torrid heat the Fortieth Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, although rather smaller than usual, was a grand success."

Referring to the Condition of the Order, the Grand Commander says:

"As a whole I think the work of this year shows improvement over that of a year ago, and in some Commanderies the improvement was very pronounced, and it was very pleasing to me to see the interest shown by the Officers, and although the attendance in some places was not as good as I could hope for, I believe it was due to the holding of inspections in the winter instead of the fall. It is my opinion that we should continue, at least, another year with the winter inspections. Although the expense is somewhat more and the attendance not so good, I find the work better and the interest kept up until nearer the end of the year. I find the Commanderies very evenly divided in regard to time of the year they wish to hold their inspections."

Every Commandery in the Jurisdiction observed Christmas. A number observed Easter by attending Divine Services. Speaking further on Condition of the Order the Grand Commander says:

"Although our membership will show a net loss of one hundred and ten for the year, I am not discouraged, as there are several bright spots in the horizon. In my visits to the several Commanderies, I find there are more young men petitioning for the Orders than in years past, and there seems to be a feeling among the Sir Knights that they must look to the Lodge members for their future petitions, rather than wait for the Chapter, which oftentimes is dormant, to furnish them with ready-made material. \* \* \* Another point I brought out at each Inspection was the fact that we do so little to create an interest for the Order in our newly Knighted members. We too often confer the Order on him, congratulate him and seat him on the sidelines, there to be forgotten.

"He attends two or three meetings and we see him no more. Is it his fault? No. We should keep him interested, and nothing keeps a member more interested than giving him something to do. \* \* \* If you do not have enough committees create some so that he may think he is of some importance to his Commandery, and before you realize it he is a constant attendant and a willing worker."

Of the Educational Foundation the Grand Commander says:

"I am more firmly convinced than ever that this part of our aims and objects as Knights Templar will become one of the outstanding features of the Order. What can be of more importance than the education of our deserving boys and girls, and the publicity which we will get from this activity will surely bear fruit in future years."

From the report of the Committee on Educational Foundation we learn that loans are made to young men and women for the last two years of their college course, or for the second year of Normal Schools. That

loans require an endorser or security approved by the Educational Foundation Committee. Eleven new loans were made during the year and seventeen were paid out in full. Payments have been made on many that were thought hopeless.

The memory of those passed on during the year is touchingly referred to by the committee on Necrology.

#### REVIEW

There is no review, but thirty pages is dedicated to the roster of the officers and members of the Jurisdiction. This method affords opportunity to the individual member of any Commandery to ascertain what the others are doing and who are the members, since a copy is supposed to be in the hands of each Recorder.

SIR KNIGHT ALVI P. CALDERWOOD,  
St. Johnsbury, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT ARCHIE S. HARRIMAN,  
Burlington, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, St. Johnsbury, June, 1939.

#### VIRGINIA

One Hundred and Sixteenth Annual Grand Conclave, Lynchburg, Virginia, May 12 and 13, 1938. Convened with Sir Knight Carlton Ridgway Moore, Right Eminent Grand Commander, presiding, and all Grand Officers present, in the Lodge Room of Marshall Lodge, No. 39, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, opening with prayer by the Grand Prelate, Sir Knight Walter W. Bain. The many distinguished visitors from neighboring Grand Jurisdictions were cordially welcomed by the Grand Commander. Among them we note particularly Sir Knight Clyde P. Love, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, of Pennsylvania, and Sir Knight J. Edward Allen, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, of North Carolina.

Immediately following, Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master, accompanied by Sir Knight William Moseley Brown, Right Eminent Grand Captain of the Guard, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., were received with due ceremony. Twelve of the sixteen living Past Grand Commanders, together with twenty-two Grand Representatives were then welcomed. Under such happy auspices did the One Hundred Sixteenth Conclave get under way. Attention was directed to the fact that it was also the one hundred thirteenth year since the host Commandery, DeMolay No. 4, was constituted.

From the Grand Commander's Address we find that he spent a very active year among the Commanderies of his jurisdiction. He visited but two foreign Jurisdictions. A special Conclave of the Grand Commandery

was held on September 1, 1937, for the purpose of installing the newly appointed Right Eminent Grand Captain of the Guard, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., Sir Knight William Moseley Brown, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of Virginia. This was a most colorful event with guests in attendance from Canada to California, from Michigan to North Carolina. It must have been a most happy day for our good frater and friend Sir Knight C. Vernon Eddy, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, and present Eminent Grand Recorder, of Knights Templar of Virginia, to whom came the distinguished honor of installing Sir Knight Brown as Grand Captain of the Guard of the Grand Encampment.

During the year the Grand Commander contacted the Commanders of all the Constituent Commanderies, stressing the importance of the faithful observance of Christmas, and attendance on other religious occasions. However, the reports showed that many of the Commanderies paid no attention to the request. While nineteen Commanderies reported observance of Christmas, eleven failed to observe the day. Saddest story of all, of the thirty Commanderies of the Jurisdiction, but three observed Easter, the day that solved beyond doubt the immortality of the soul, and the continuity of consciousness. Said our Risen Lord, "I go to prepare a place for you, that where I am there ye may be also." However, honor is due to Hampton Commandery No. 17, of Newport. The *Newport News* of that city paid honor to this Commandery with a news item, which in part says:

"An increased attendance yesterday and a fine co-operation in the presentation of the program at the annual sunrise Easter Service of the Knights Templar is a source of gratification to the community. For the past several years the Templars have acted as sponsors of this service, furnishing the leadership that is necessary in any community affair, but modestly going no further than to furnish the active nucleus around which a real community event could be built. \* \* \* In fact with some 500 or so in attendance yesterday, the event has reached the point where definite preparations are to be made for the service next year and a continuing general committee will be set up, in all probability, to bring an even wider scope to it in future. \* \* \* The world today desperately needs a resurgence of religious guidance and Christian principles and support for these observances of Christian holy days aids in supplying that need. They tend to promote a religious solidarity and to call attention to the real meaning of a season embodying man's highest aspiration—the upward spiritual advance to immortality."

Reporting on inspection results the Grand Commander warns to his text:

"I regret to state that the reports of this year show a great lack of interest both on the part of officers and Sir Knights of our Commanderies. Many of our Commanderies show such little interest in their inspections that it seems almost useless to attempt to have them inspected; especially is this true where the officers themselves fail to come out to be inspected. \* \* \* Unless this Grand Commandery takes some drastic

steps to improve these conditions there can be nothing done except to take up the Charters of the Commanderies which are in this deplorable condition."

Undoubtedly action of this sort is the way out. With the well-nigh general prevalence of good roads it would seem that consolidation of the weak and ill equipped Commanderies with well located and equipped Commanderies is the effective way to restore the prestige of Templary. A dormant Commandery is a discredit to the cause of Templary, and prompt action should be taken to relieve the Order of the stigma. The glorious beauty of the Ritual cannot be imparted to the postulant without proper staging, and a deep-hearted interest and effective rendition of the Ritual on the part of those conferring the Orders. A proper conception of the meaning of the ceremony coupled with a religious fervor in imparting it to the candidate is imperative if we are to create Sir Knights devoted body and soul to the full accomplishment of our noble objectives, and so draw the attention of those of the outer world to the sincerity of our endeavors to live as soldiers of the cross. Unless we do this we are a liability to the cause of Christianity.

The report of the Educational Foundation Committee is well presented, concise, comprehensive. It reflects a slightly increased activity over last year. The total of loans now outstanding is \$37,318.70. Applications for loans have greatly decreased. Competition of the National Youth Administration has affected the Templar loan situation. Universities of the State show by reports that 1,509 students are receiving such assistance from the Government.

#### REVIEW

The Review is by Sir Knight Thomas W. Hooper, Eminent Grand Sword Bearer and is concisely and interestingly written.

The Address of the Most Eminent Grand Master, covering the progress of Templar Masonry, and giving most helpful suggestion for the further extension of Templar principles and activities was warmly received by the Conclave.

SIR KNIGHT FARRAR C. VERSER,  
Crewe, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT C. VERNON EDDY,  
Winchester, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Marion, May 11, 1939.

#### WASHINGTON

We salute Sir Knight Fred M. Bond, Right Eminent Grand Commander (the Knight of the beautiful plume). The bright, piercing eye of this Grand Commander, gives promise of a mind that keeps in the

forefront as a major objective, the welfare and development of Templary within his Jurisdiction. Some pages further in the Proceedings we come upon another Sir Knight, under an equally beautiful plume, in the person of Sir Knight Leslie Cramer, Eminent Grand Treasurer, and as we study that countenance, especially the firm lines of the mouth, we are convinced he guards well the outlet of the Grand Treasury of Washington.

The Fifty-first Annual Conclave was convened in Tacoma on the morning of May 9, with all Grand Officers of the Grand Commandery, except the Grand Standard Bearer present, together with a constitutional number of Constituent Commanderies, and some seventeen Past Grand Commanders. All Commanderies except three were represented. Twenty-nine Sister Jurisdictions were also represented by their Grand Representatives.

Roll call of Past Grand Commanders who had sheathed their swords followed, closing with prayer by the Grand Prelate. Followed then the introduction and reception, with ceremony, of the distinguished guests, among whom were Sir Knight and Most Worshipful Brother Frank L. Poole, Grand Master Grand Lodge, Free & Accepted Masons, of Washington, and Sir Knight Roland P. Hartley, Past Grand Commander of Minnesota and Ex-Governor of the State of Washington, the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A. All were cordially welcomed with appropriate remarks.

Introductory ceremonies being concluded the Grand Commander presented his address, opening in thankful vein, and with respectful deference to the honored dead. Then in reference to the Condition of the Order he said:

"The condition of our Order is of great interest to all and one of the subjects nearest to our hearts. However, in my visits throughout the State I have found much optimism and a great deal of encouragement, especially as far as the immediate future is concerned. Nearly all the Commanderies have an increased amount of work and this is true with the smaller Commanderies, as well as some of the larger ones. In fact I have been reliably informed that there have been sufficient number of Orders of the Temple conferred since the first of this to entirely wipe out the loss of membership, and for the year 1938 the reports will show a gain rather than a loss.

"In many occasions I find that the Commanderies are having joint conclaves and visiting back and forth, and are conferring the Orders together, which has stimulated a great deal of interest and enthusiasm. This work is commendable and I have urged the Commanderies to continue this splendid activity. There are a number of the smaller Commanderies that need assistance. They also need encouragement, and in my opinion, all of the Commanderies having survived these trying times are worth saving. The Grand Commandery can help very materially by cultivating a more intimate contact with the Constituent Commanderies. This can be done through the line officers under the zone system which has been a magnificent help during the past year.

"It had been my great ambition during my administration to visit every Commandery within this Grand Jurisdiction, and it has been my privilege and great honor to visit 26 of the 27 Commanderies. \* \* \* I had the great pleasure of signing as Grand Commander thirty-two honorary certificates for young men and ladies who had fully paid their loan in full to the entire satisfaction of the Committee, and in accordance with the rules of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States. This demonstrates the fact that some of our young people not only realize that a great benefit is being furnished them but also appreciate that they have a great responsibility and that they are determined to meet the same."

The Grand Commander reports that twenty Commanderies observed Christmas, also that twenty observed Easter in the manner of Knights Templar. He reports also installing the officers of seven Commanderies of the Jurisdiction, all of which were public and were attended by members of the families of the Sir Knights and their friends. The Grand Commander warmly endorses public installations, believing they promote the real spirit of the Order.

One of the recommendations of the Grand Commander is of interest to Templary, in which he recommends that the annual budget provide a sufficient amount so that the Proceedings of the Grand Commandery may be printed with such style and quality as may be commensurate with the standards and dignity of this great Order. I am a firm believer in strict economy, yet I believe there is such a thing as being penny wise and pound foolish. We cannot expect to put out a cheap article and at the same time command the respect and dignity to which our Order is entitled.

Sir Knight Elmer F. Conner, Inspector General, makes two pertinent suggestions, prompted doubtless from experience in inspecting Commanderies, one that the Ode of the Skull be delivered by the Commander, rather than by the Prelate, as is done by some of the Commanderies inspected. The other that greater effect would be obtained were the candidate clothed in Templar uniform at the time he is Knighted.

There is little doubt in the writer's mind but that the compilers of the Ritual contemplated that the Commander should recite the Ode. As to the uniform, Section 41, paragraph (i) disposes of that.

On the evening of the first day a stirring sermon was delivered by Sir Knight and Reverend John B. Magee, on "The Cross of Templarism." Space forbids lengthy quoting of it here, but here is a pertinent paragraph:

"You and I in our application of this text may think of the place of the Cross in our teachings, as something hidden from men, but on the contrary something so interpreted that any one might read and understand. We may appear to the world to be another secret order with many dangerous teachings. We must make our life and conduct so unmistakably clear that anyone may understand that what we are trying to do is for good and not for evil. \* \* \* Now here is the strange paradox—we

have the cross, and yet we have it not. We wear it on our watch charms, we have it emblazoned upon our rings, we put it into a central place in our asylums, but we forget, we forget to keep it in our hearts where it belongs. We would defend the idea of its centrality in our teachings, but we would dare go out from our places of retreat and live as though we had no such teachings and no such symbol. It is for this reason that it seemed to me appropriate to remind ourselves that the cross is ours, and we must preserve it, and believe in it."

From the report of the Educational Foundation Committee we quote:

"A less number of loans was made during the year than during the preceding year, due partly to the fact that loans were available to students from the Federal Government, partly to a more rigid requirement by the Committee, and partly to a lack of information that such a service was available. \* \* \* It is not only the opinion of your Committee, but it is the conviction of the leading Knights of the United States, that the Educational Foundation is the greatest movement in Masonic history for the past century. Nine new loans were made during the past year amounting to \$1,665. Collections on principal, \$5,843 and \$1,791 on interest. Twenty-nine loans were paid in full."

From the report of the Grand Prelate on Necrology we bring you this gem:

"What is this experience which has come to these friends of ours? Is it to pass into oblivion, to be covered with sod, to be forgotten, and to appear no more forever anywhere? Is it to die, perish, and to have time erase their names and work from the pages of life with a ruthless hand, so that no man shall ask who or what they have been? No! It is to dream and awaken to find a chariot and horses of fire ready to take one into the presence of the King; it is to visit the stars and climb the golden stairway to the morning to the place where suns are made; it is to drink of the music of heaven and to walk in the meadowlands of eternity; it is to lay hold upon mightier tasks without the weight of the flesh to drag one back, and to see things done such as one dreamed he might always do; it is to run and not be weary, to walk and not faint, and to lie down in the everlasting sunshine of the garden of the Resurrected Christ. Yea! It is to live—to live—to live forever."

#### REVIEW

While it was recommended at the last Annual Conclave that the practice of printing the Templar Review be resumed, yet for reasons of economy it was not done.

SIR KNIGHT HORATIO N. DRYER,  
Yakima, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT WESLEY C. STONE,  
Spokane, Eminent Grand Commander.

Next Annual Conclave, Seattle, May 8, 1939.

#### WEST VIRGINIA

An interesting portrait of Sir Knight Matthias W. Dugan, Right Eminent Grand Commander for the next year, adorns the frontispiece of the Proceedings, 1938, of West Virginia. He was born in "Old

Kentucky," but his parents decided it would be better for him to grow up in West Virginia. We know of no valid objections to this decision, as my own good wife was born and grew to womanhood there, so I know the quality.

The Sixty-fourth Annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery was convened in Grafton on May 18, 1938, with Sir Knight William A. Beavers, Right Eminent Grand Commander, presiding, and all other line officers present, together with fifteen Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders. Past Commanders of the various Commanderies turned out in force, while 25 of the 26 Commanderies had one or more official representatives present. Thirty-six Grand Representatives of other Grand Jurisdictions also were received and welcomed by Grand Commander Beavers, through Sir Knight Lewis N. Tavener, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, the response to the welcome being given by Sir Knight Byron C. Lear, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander of New Jersey, and the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master, to the Grand Commandery of West Virginia.

After appointing the several committees the Grand Commander addressed the Conclave, opening with:

"Privilege and responsibility are inseparable. The attractiveness and challenge of the former enables us to adjust ourselves to the weight of the latter, and the latter produces a balance which prevents the abuse of the former. I count it a happy privilege, and at the same time feel the weight of my responsibility as in a representative capacity I welcome you to our city. Our hands are at your service; our hearts are aglow with warmest affection; our homes are open to you, and whatever is necessary to your comfort and happiness while you are in our midst we readily and joyously place at your disposal. The city of Grafton greets you in the name of all that is best and noblest."

A most royal and generous welcome. This address is the product of a mind and heart dedicated to the principles of Templary, I must let you share its eloquent devotion with me, so I continue:

"As I present an account of my stewardship for the past year I do so deeply conscious of my weakness. I am, however, also very conscious of the fact that my best has been put into my task. Progress has been my watchword, and my path has been strewn with the sweets of sacred fellowship. Throughout my long experience and much travel into every nook and corner of this State, nothing have I found more genuinely filled to the overflowing with the riches of noble living than the holy fellowship of our fraternity. It is this that constantly furnished the impetus, and created the momentum adequate to progressive movement, and at the same time reduced to a minimum whatever difficulties I encountered.

"Modesty does not forbid my asserting that I have never fastened my attention upon the pleasingly satisfactory by turning aside from the central purpose of my office. In my eagerness to count and to measure and to weigh, I have deliberately sought to keep my face steadfastly set toward the highest standard of value. Wherever I was carried by the chariot of duty I looked for, and to a very large extent I have found the qualitative aspect of our work most scrupulously protected and faithfully

pursued. In thoughtful reverence I gratefully adore the Supreme Grand Commander, who gave unto me the blessing of health and strength adequate to my task. I thank Him for His protecting providence and unerring guidance, and for the gracious ministry of inspired fellowship with my brethren. Gratefully I also turn to the noble and conscientious corps of Line Officials whose devotion to duty has been as constant and unswerving."

He then pays tribute to the illustrious dead of the Jurisdiction in touching and eloquent language, as witness this:

"On December 9, 1937, Eminent Sir Thomas L. Feazell, Grand Sword Bearer, answered the summons of the Eternal. A loyal soldier of Christ, ever bearing in his heart the sword of the Holy Spirit, left us. Called from us in the midst of his days of greatest promise with but fifty-two years in this sphere of action. The shortness of life is ever bound up with its fullness. Strip a life empty, and it will seem long, but life is always short to him who thinks, feels, works, and cares for others. This short life of Sir Thomas was full. A man of business, active in the work of his church and diligent in his attention to duty, he constrained all who met him to love him, and more especially in Masonic circles. His whole-souled interest in crippled children revealed his real nature, which epitomized gentleness and tenderness."

Following prayer by the Grand Prelate the Grand Commander continued with his address. He was lavish in his praise of the arrangements made and entertainment furnished to all visiting Sir Knights regardless of their rank. Too, the writer can add his personal praise to this feature. Hats off to the Grand Commandery of Florida, small but mighty in works! This in commendation of the success they achieved in entertaining the Grand Encampment at Miami on the occasion of the Fortieth Triennial Conclave July, 1937. To quote Grand Commander Beavers:

"I wish it were possible that I might speak to you of the knightly courtesies and gracious hospitality extended the visiting Sir Knights. The moment you landed in Miami you were in the hands of your friends. Every thing for the comfort, pleasure and entertainment of the visiting Sir Knights was fully provided."

In General Order No. 1, the Grand Commander sets forth:

"These inspections are arranged early in the Templar year in order that the officers of the Constituent Commandery will be in shape and have their work well in hand for the conferring of degrees (Orders) during the coming year. *The purpose of inspections is to assist the officers of the Constituent Commanderies in perfecting their work.*"

The italic is that of the reviewer. Too many jurisdictions time the inspections for the close of the year. This is working backwards. Just as early in the fall as the weather gets pleasant for work in uniform is the time to make inspections. Officers are installed in April, as a rule, and should get down to hard work at once and fit themselves for an early fall inspection, and so do meritorious work on candidates during fall and winter.

Thus says the Grand Commander continuing:

"Early inspections serve three purposes: (a) Efficiency in the work. (b) Revive interest in Templar Masonry. (c) Promotes Knightly courtesies in stimulating visitations of fraters from various nearby Commanderies."

In the Grand Commander's Christmas message to West Virginia's fraters we find this interesting paragraph:

"Dispensation is hereby granted to all Commanderies to visit public institutions for charitable purposes between December 24 and January 1, 1938, in full Templar uniform."

Twenty-one Commanderies report as having observed Christmas, while but fifteen report observing Easter. Five failed to observe our Lord's birthday, while eleven failed to observe the anniversary of His glorious resurrection. Apparently two Commanderies ignored both observances. Others were heroic and held observance, although but three in one case and six, seven and eight, respectively, in three others. Congratulations, Sir Knights. A Commandery that fails in this important function has but little reason to retain its Charter.

On Condition of the Order the Commander speaks with interest and to the point. After commending those Commanderies doing real work, he says:

"I regret to record that the reports of the inspecting officers of several of the Commanderies in this Grand Jurisdiction, were anything but commendable. In fact, the work in some instances, was exceedingly poor. The more progressive Commanderies were on their toes and did their work in an excellent, creditable manner, and are to be highly commended for the interest manifested. Some of the Constituent Commanderies seem to think all that is necessary is to have the chairs filled by officers, whether they are elective or past, and that the work be exemplified. While it is highly commendable for Past Commanders and past officers in the Commandery to take an active part when most needed, yet, it is a bonded duty of each officer to especially prepare himself to deliver his part of the work in a credible manner, and should not depend on Past Commanders to fill the chairs. \* \* \* Those who expect to receive the honors of the office should certainly be required to pay the price by regular attendance, proficiency in the work and an interest in Templar Masonry.

"If they do not intend to do this they should step aside for those who are more interested and willing to do the work. \* \* \* In my visitations at times I have been caused to wonder if we really appreciate the spirit and work of Templar Masonry. Are we working more for the 'shekels than the sheaves'? Only those who are sincere and remember their vows they took upon themselves when they knelt at the sacred altar, can appreciate the importance of Templar Masonry. It is something more than a promise—it is something more than a sign. It is a life to lead; character to create, and a duty to perform."

From the reports on Educational Foundation we gather encouraging facts that reflect credit on the methods of operation of the Foundation under the direction of the Grand Encampment. During 1937, payments

on students' loans amounted to \$5,813.62, principal and interest to \$1,577.97. Loans made, 1937, \$4,485.00, of which twenty were new loans to students. Student loans outstanding amounted to \$54,990.33. Accrued but unpaid interest, \$7,500.00, approximate. Required capital, \$55,620.00. It will be noted that most of it is out at work. Note, too, there is some \$10,000.00 cash on hand. Here there is no hiding of the talent in investments for fear of loss.

The Secretary-Treasurer is notably a man of deeds. In February, 1938, he mailed letters and statements to 251 due and past due loanees. By April he had letters from four-fifths of them, eighty-four loanees have made payments on past due loans, twelve have made payments on loans on which the first installments were currently due, two are paying on loans that have been charged off to Loss and Gain, and one more promises to commence paying in June on a charged off loan. This response leads the Secretary-Treasurer to say:

"I firmly believe that most all of these old loans can be collected in time, if given constant and proper attention."

Honor still survives!

From the report of the Educational Foundation representative to Miami we glean more encouragement. He reports:

"A fine feeling of co-operation prevailed during the meeting with regard to the Educational Movement, which probably received more consideration than any other matter before the Conclave. The Grand Encampment Educational Committee has done, and is doing a fine piece of work. The fear that it would be autocratic in its manner and method of supervising the administration of the Fund, to the detriment or embarrassment of the State Committees, was found to be without foundation and utterly foolish. On the other hand there prevailed only a sincere desire to help, aid and assist the State Committees in every way possible to make this movement a success."

#### REVIEW

The Review is written by Sir Knight, Charles E. Carrigan, Right Eminent Grand Commander. He calls attention to the fact that optimism prevails throughout the Grand Commanderies of the Grand Encampment. He mentions the inclinations of Grand Commanderies to discontinue their Reviews since the Grand Encampment has undertaken the publication of a Review. On this he says:

"Like all other problems, there are two sides, but it is another case of consolidation, which results in the work being formal rather than personal."

We pause to observe, in rebuttal that this Review shall be a person to person Review, with the more personal elements appearing in the Annual Conclaves brought into the word picture we attempt to present. In other words this is an affair of the heart and not of the lips. With my right hand over your shoulder in Knightly fellowship I shall try to

bring you the good news of what it means to the soul to have for your very own the companionship and love of men united in a SACRED bond over a sacred altar.

Reviewer Carrigan presents good work, true work, covering the highlights of each Jurisdiction in interesting style. We appreciate his generous notice of our Tennessee effort.

SIR KNIGHT MATTHIAS W. DUGAN,  
Huntington, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT HENRY F. SMITH,  
Fairmont, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Elkins, Third Wednesday, May, 1939.

### WISCONSIN

The Proceedings of the Eightieth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Wisconsin open in most interesting manner, the pronouncement as to the Charter, from which the Grand Commandery derives all its powers, dated October 17, 1859, granted by the Grand Encampment of the United States of America. On the facing page is a striking portrait of the presiding Grand Commander, Oscar Arthur Richter, in full Templar uniform. Immediately following are two pages containing the incoming official line; of course, all are in uniform. A few pages over and we are greeted by a very fine looking group of Sir Knights of high rank, among whom we discover the Most Eminent Grand Master, and on his right, Sir Knights Agnew, Past Grand Master, Hamersly, Grand Recorder, and Allan B. Barr, Past Supreme Grand Master of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada. It is an excellent specimen of the photographer's art. Toward the end of the book we come upon another group picture, consisting of the official line, with the exception of the Grand Warder and the Grand Captain of the Guard. The notable addition to this group is Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A.

The Eightieth Annual Conclave was convened June 24, at 9:30 a. m., with Sir Knight Oscar A. Richter, Right Eminent Grand Commander, presiding. Among the distinguished guests received were Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., Sir Knight Allan B. Barr, Past Most Eminent Supreme Grand Master, Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, Sir Knight Andrew D. Agnew, Past Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., and Sir Knight Adrian Hamersly, Right Eminent Grand Recorder, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A.

The U. S. colors were received under escort, in accordance with the Manual of Ceremonies, after which the Grand Prelate gave the invoca-

tion. Other formalities being disposed of, Manitowoc Commandery No. 45 exemplified, in full form, the opening of a Commandery.

Following this the Grand Commander read his Address. He submitted statistics showing a loss of membership during a nine year period of 3,665 members. For the past year the membership loss amounted to 562. Said the Grand Commander in the course of his Address:

"I should like to point out that, to my mind, the opportunities and duties of the Sir Knights for Templary extend outside our asylums. In times of chaotic conditions throughout the world, when many of the peoples of foreign nations are at each others throats in trying to carry out the ideas, the meaning of which they know not, it is necessary for a group of men such as this to maintain a fine balance and to keep in mind the goal toward which we are headed. Dangers are ever present in our own great nation, and we must needs be eternally vigilant and aware of what is occurring around us in every day life, as I have stated on several previous occasions.

"The American people are a forgetful nation, and matters of great importance to us all are very frequently given casual attention. The individual who makes up the rank and file of the Order is, I believe, of much better than average intelligence and capability. Our ranks comprise those who should be leaders in their several walks of life; men who should make it their business to keep informed on all national and civic affairs and to lend their influence, not as Knights Templar but as American citizens, to the end that the progress, for which the American people is known, will not cease."

Thirty-four Grand Representatives of Sister Jurisdictions near the Grand Commandery of Wisconsin answered roll call, and were cordially welcomed by the Grand Commander. Beautiful sentiment is included in the Grand Commander's Address section Necrology. That you, too, may enjoy it as I did, I quote it in part:

"When I die I shall accomplish in the millionth of the twinkling of an eye that which science through the ages has been unable to achieve. I shall have learned the secrets of the universe. \* \* \* Knowledge of the infinite will be mine when I die. While loved ones gather round, perhaps to mourn, I shall know that in the heavens are many mansions. \* \* \* When I die, though no shackles bind me, there will continue the ties of love which endure when the heart no longer throbs, warm blood no more to course through arteries that withered as twilight neared, the soul to soar in timeless flight.

"When I die I shall mingle with kings who loved their fellowmen on earth, with commoners whose exalted works placed them near the throne on high. Trillions who have gone to dust to rise again will pass before me and I will know them all; for souls may remain as individuals, yet they remain as one. What sweeter blessings do we ask than dreamless sleep? That shall be mine, should it be that when the soul takes flight from its encasement of flesh and bone it is no more, I shall then be beyond the sufferings of vitality, no uncertainties awaiting me in a celestial void. Priceless sleep!"

From the Report of the Committee on Necrology we quote this true saying:

"No man's life can ever be properly estimated until after he has died. Nevertheless there are certain attitudes exhibited during a lifetime which determine the stamp of character that is being developed. \* \* \* Some people assume for inexplicable reasons that the world owes them a living and they wait for it to come to them so they can get it. Many people are so fearful of being imposed upon that they crawl into their shells, cling to their own little lives and refuse all opportunity to share anything. Experience teaches us that the facts run all to the contrary. You must give happiness if you would have it. You must extend confidence if confidence is to be reposed in you. Show me a man who will not trust anyone else and I will show you a man who is untrustworthy himself."

Christmas and Easter Days were well observed throughout the State. Milwaukee County Commanderies held a magnificent and inspiring meeting at the auditorium with a magnificent choir and a large attendance on Easter Day.

Many invitations to visit Sister Jurisdictions were received by the Grand Commander, but circumstances prevent acceptance of a number.

On Condition of the Order the Grand Commander reports:

"It is my firm belief that much progress has been made in furthering the interests of Templar Masonry during the past year. \* \* \* I believe it important that opportunities of becoming Templars should be extended to the younger members of the communities as fully as possible. It behooves every Sir Knight to maintain a sufficient amount of interest in his Commandery and to be sure that the opportunities that were extended to him will also be extended to his own sons and to the sons of his friends. It is important that the youth be brought into this organization, as in all organizations. \* \* \* In the hands of the youth of America, I have no fear for the future of Templary."

He lays stress on the importance of giving more attention to the impressive full conferral of the Orders of Red Cross and Malta. This stress is justly laid. It is this writer's strong conviction that each of the beautiful Orders should always be conferred in their full beauty and impressiveness, as well as the Order of the Temple. There should be no skimping of the work. To do so is in fact shortchanging the postulant, as well as robbing the Order of the prestige it is justly entitled to.

The following I quote from the Grand Commander's conclusion of his address, which is worthy of careful meditation:

"The United States possesses almost \$11,000,000.00 in gold, or nearly half of the world's monetary metal. It has two-thirds of civilization's banking resources. The purchasing power of the population is greater than that of 500,000,000 people in Europe, or more than a billion Asiatics. Responsible leadership which cannot translate such a bulging economy into assured prosperity is destitute of capacity. But pompous statesmen looking over the estate, solemnly declare that the methods, by which it was created, are all wrong, ought to be abandoned, must be discarded, that the time has come to substitute political management for individual initiative and supervision."

From the report of the Educational Foundation we find that during

the past year students have repaid principal amounting to \$15,376.54, on interest \$4,946.49, losses restored \$490.73, loans made to students \$3,657.39. The number of students receiving such loans during the year is not shown in the report.

Sir Knight Allan B. Barr, Past Most Excellent Supreme Grand Master, Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, made a short address emphasizing the cordial relations existing between the two countries and Templary.

Sir Knight Mark Norris, Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment Knights Templar, U. S. A., delivered a stirring address to the Conclave. I quote briefly:

"Sir Knights I think that a good deal of the loss that we have received—a whole lot of it, it is impossible to tell how much, but a whole lot of it—is due to the faults of ourselves, and unless we recognize that fact and remedy it the same situation is likely to continue. \* \* \* I hear of Commanderies that do nothing. \* \* \* I know of a Commander who, for six years, hadn't been able to learn his ritual. I told them they had to get rid of that kind of chap. It seems to become the unwritten law that a member starting in the line has a good and absolute right to come up to the top. Well, that is not the law, and it never ought to be the law, and a man in the line in any Commandery who doesn't do his work as he should, should be dropped from the line. \* \* \*

"The first thing that we should be looking for is that our Commandery is so organized and run, that the community in which it exists should respect that Commandery and its officers, and if you elect officers that are not respected in the Commandery you are taking the position that your Commandery cannot be respected in your community. That is the first thing you have to do to make your Order efficient. Sometimes I see the work done beautifully. It thrills the heart and mind of the candidate. There is something besides ritualism in the order. It means something to God and Church."

#### REVIEW

There is no Review, nor is the Grand Encampment Review incorporated in the Proceedings.

SIR KNIGHT CLAUDE JOSEPH HENDRICKS,  
Milwaukee, Right Eminent Grand Commander.

SIR KNIGHT JOHN HIRAM FERTIG,  
Milwaukee, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Milwaukee, June 23, 24, 1939.

#### WYOMING

We salute you, Sir Knight Forest G. Taylor, Right Eminent Grand Commander, 1937-38, as you deliver your valedictory, with that earnestness which your portrait in full uniform depicts; and we salute you Sir Knight, Clarence A. Brimmer, Right Eminent Grand Commander, as

you take over command, with that question, "What of tomorrow?" "Whatever it may bring I will face it with courage." 1938-39 holds much in promise for you. Your portrait depicts determination. Yours is a great and noble cause. The world needs the practical Templar philosophy. "God speed you on your way!"

Prior to the convening of the Annual Conclave at Casper, July 11, a full form opening of a Commandery was exemplified by Apollo Commandery No. 8, assisted by Clelland Commandery No. 12, which also included the reception of the Grand Commander, in accordance with the Tactics, all of which elicited high praise from the Sir Knights in attendance.

The convening of the Grand Commandery found all officers with the exception of the Grand Treasurer in attendance. His absence was due to his illness.

Announcement was made of the presence of Sir Knight Edward E. Carr, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, of Nebraska, as the Personal Representative of the Most Eminent Grand Master. The Grand Commander gave direction to form a Committee of Past Grand Commanders to retire and escort Sir Knight Carr into the Asylum, where he was cordially received by the Grand Commander and tendered command of the Conclave.

Following this the Grand Commandery was tendered a hearty welcome to Casper, to which response was made in fitting language, and the Conclave settled down to business. Numerous communications of regret and felicitation were then read, and attention was directed to the report of Sir Knight C. Byron Lear, Chairman of the Committee on the Good of the Order, read at the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of New Jersey, March 4, 1938. This worth-while report is quoted from at length in the New Jersey review, to which this writer refers the interested reader.

Twenty-six Grand Representatives of Sister Grand Jurisdictions were received and welcomed. Followed then roll call of the Past Grand Commanders who had sheathed their swords, twenty-six of them, held in loving memory.

From the Address of the Grand Commander we learn that reports of attendance on Christmas Observance service show that 13 of the 16 Commanderies observed the day in Templar manner, and show an increase of 68 in attendance over the previous year. Easter was observed by 14 of the Commanderies with an increase in attendance of 20 over the previous year. No requests for dispensations were received during the year.

The Grand Commander found opportunity to visit all the Commanderies of the State. He was cordially received in every Commandery. No visits were made to Sister Grand Jurisdictions, although numerous

cordial invitations were received, for the reason that circumstances did not permit. Speaking of his attendance at the Triennial at Miami he says:

"The entertainment and the cordiality was more than should have been expected, and one felt that he was being personally welcomed to Florida."

Among his recommendations we find one pertaining to the form of annual report required to be made by the Commanderies. Some form should be drawn that can be made on the typewriter. We are sure this can be done, even though the present common book type in general use by a number of Grand Commanderies be continued. It could be put out in loose leaf form printed as at present, pages numbered to preserve consecutiveness in reassembling for mailing to the Grand Recorder. Having made up such reports we consider it readily adaptable to compilation on a typewriter by simply withdrawing the staples which the printer of the form uses in assembling the report in book form.

His recommendation concerning the uniform by purchase by the Grand Commandery is also workable and sensible, and, this writer believes, the intelligent way to get the uniform on every newly created Sir Knight, by requiring the Commandery to remit to the Grand Recorder immediately after the candidate receives the Order of the Red Cross, the price of the uniform or well secured notes due in not more than six months, so that the candidate may receive the uniform as he receives the Order of Malta, or not later than in time to have it for the Order of the Temple, in accordance with the Statutes.

We quote the closing of the Grand Commander's Address to show his regard for Templar ideals:

"Finally, Sir Knights, keep in mind that you are charged with certain duties, obligations and responsibilities and that these are applicable to each and every one; not only to the newly initiated, but equally to the officers, Grand Officers, and Past Grand Officers. Do not forget that each and every Knight is a representative to the public of this great and noble Christian Order. Do not put off your Templar teachings and principles with your uniform, but exemplify and demonstrate them in your daily life with your fellowmen. Thus may you give practical evidence to the world of the value of this order."

The Report of the Committee on Educational Foundation shows that \$2,957.25 was received during the year as payment on student loans, but that collections are still unsatisfactory. Three accounts have been turned over to an attorney for collection. One loanee died, but the loan was covered by an insurance policy. Seventeen have completed payment in full. Ten new loans were made during the year, in face of the fact that Federal funds are being used by students, and is strong competition.

The Grand Recorder's Report shows a net loss of 58 a decrease of 13 over the previous year, and an increase in Knightings of 11 over last year.

## REVIEW

There is no Review.

SIR KNIGHT CLARENCE A. BRIMMER,  
Rawlins, Right Eminent Grand Commander.  
SIR KNIGHT RICHARD H. REPATH,  
Cheyenne, Eminent Grand Recorder.

Next Annual Conclave, Rawlins, July 10, 1939.

## SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES

## ST. JOHN'S COMMANDERY No. 1

Wilmington, Delaware

Report from this Subordinate Commandery dated September 17, is quoted in full as follows:

"Replying to yours of the 2nd inst. Our membership as of July 1, 1938, is 530 fraters. As you can see, we were constituted September 18, 1868, and have an old membership, suffering a loss through death of 34 during the last year. We have created 5 fraters during the same period, and feel that we are lucky to get that number during these unsettled times.

"Our present Eminent Commander is Edward Z. Mills, and his address is 1800 Shallcross Ave., Wilmington, Del. We are carrying on to the best of our ability and hope for a revival of interest when conditions improve. If you desire more information on any particular subject, advise and I will gladly furnish same."

(Signed) CHARLES MCINTIRE, Recorder.

Further, replying to my inquiry of September 21, Recorder Charles McIntire informs me that four men were Knighted during 1937, one reinstated, two demitted, and eight suspended. He states the delinquent list contains one hundred names, which they have been carrying, hoping. Business conditions continue poor, making it impossible for delinquent members to find funds to pay dues.

It has always appeared to me that in justice to the member, that the by-law provision for suspension of delinquent members, usually when in arrears for two years, should become effective. This would relieve the affected Sir Knight of the worry of accumulating dues, and with tactful contact being maintained with him during suspension, he would seek reinstatement, without the sense of humiliation attendant upon the consciousness that he really owed several years dues. I say this as I have personal knowledge of cases where my own Commandery has carried delinquents for a number of years, then cut the dues out and on petition reinstate them to have them again become delinquent. This type of member is just a liability.

Commenting with Sir Knight McIntire on the unusual situation of their existing as the only subordinate Commandery on the mainland of the United States, he responds by saying that while there are Chapters in both Dover and Georgetown, the companions and fraters there feel it is doubtful that Commanderies could be supported there. Further, he reports that the line officers and Past Commanders of Division No. 5, of Pennsylvania, have adopted them, and that most of their Past Commanders are members of that Association.

In reply to my inquiry as to fellowship or union with a neighboring Grand Commandery after the order of Massachusetts and Rhode Island he says:

"We are proud of our little State, it being the first to sign the Constitution, and do not wish to lose our identity."

Feeling there may be other Sir Knights interested in the story I record it here. Let's hope that at no distant future they will form Commanderies at Dover and Georgetown, and so be able to attain full standing as a Grand Commandery.

SIR KNIGHT EDWARD Z. MILLS,  
Wilmington, Commander.

SIR KNIGHT CHARLES MCINTIRE,  
Wilmington, Recorder.

## HONOLULU COMMANDERY No. 1

Honolulu, T. H., U. S. A.

Report received from this Commandery shows a membership December 1, 1936, of 162, December 1, 1937, of 157, a loss of 5, four of which are from demits, two from suspension, one discrepancy. One petitioner was Knighted and one received by affiliation, making a net loss of 5. It appears that in 1938 they have created one Knight of Malta, and have elected one petitioner.

The report further shows that 13 Stated Conclaves were held. I quote the report:

"Average attendance at Conclaves 13. There was a public appearance in uniform, the observance of Easter."

The report mentions no other special events. It would appear that official activity might develop sufficient interest in this isolated unit to arrange some form of Templar entertainment to bring out the hibernating Sir Knights, and incidentally locate eligible material from which to secure petitions for our beautiful Orders. With the Ritual

rendered with impressiveness on petitioners, they in turn would spread the good news, with good results.

SIR KNIGHT LLELWELLYN H. L. HART,  
Honolulu, Eminent Commander.

SIR KNIGHT HERBERT DUNSHEE,  
Masonic Temple, Honolulu, T. H., Recorder.

FAR EAST COMMANDERY No. 1

Manila, Philippine Islands

Under date of October 19, 1938, comes the following report from Recorder George Barrows Obear:

From last report, members .....	226
Knights created .....	5
Admitted .....	3
Reinstated .....	2
 Total gain .....	 10
Demitted .....	5
Suspended .....	6
Died .....	2
Expelled .....	0
 Total loss .....	 13
Net loss .....	3
 Total members this report .....	 223

Contact is maintained with the membership by interesting bulletins issued from time to time. The desirability of keeping their dues paid up is kept before them. Conclaves are made interesting by presenting speakers who make timely, interesting, talks.

Recorder Obear reports that the beneficent influence spread by Past Grand Master Agnew on his visit in December, 1936, is still active among them.

Our wish for them is that the Grand Master's influence may be transmuted into good deeds on the part of their membership which may result in many minds seeking their companionship and its accompanying incentive to Christian fellowship.

SIR KNIGHT HAROLD T. GEWALD,  
Manila, (Acting) Eminent Commander.

SIR KNIGHT GEORGE BARROWS OBEAR,  
P. O. Box 698, Manila, P. I., Recorder.

#### ANCHORAGE COMMANDERY No. 2

Anchorage, Alaska

From Sir Knight John Parsons, Recorder, we receive the following:

"Templars as of July 1, 1937.....	18
Knights Created .....	0
Knights Admitted .....	0
Knights Reinstated .....	0
Demitted .....	0
Died .....	1
Suspended .....	0
Expelled .....	0
 Totals .....	 1
Net Loss .....	1
 Membership July 1, 1938 .....	 17

"In our General Fund, we have a balance of \$481.93, and have been assisting several of the Sir Knights over the past lean years. Our Educational Fund stands to date at \$390.61, and we have not made any loans. It was suggested in one or two cases, but after due consideration, and the small amount loanable, plan rejected. With the retirement act in effect, we are at a loss for members, several having been retired and moved to the States. Today we have but six members residing in Anchorage and depend on visiting Fraters.

"Conditions are such that Commander Sharp has finally decided that permission would have to be requested from the Grand Master for permission with two Sir Knights of other Commanderies to open the Temple, act upon the several applications and confer the degrees. We have six Companions ready to apply and one to be dubbed and Created as a favor to the Grand Commandery of Washington. It will be our earnest endeavor to continue our efforts up north and emulate the Christian Knighthood lessons to our less informed brethren. I trust this will cover our activities for the once. With kindest personal regards and every good wish for the Yuletide,

Fraternally and Courteously yours,  
JOHN PARSONS, Recorder."

The foregoing is the report dated Anchorage, Alaska, November 20, and which reached the writer December 12.

#### ADDENDA

From out of the frozen north comes this cheering news:

"Anchorage, Alaska,  
January 12, 1939.

Adrian Hamersly, Grand Recorder,  
Indianapolis, Indiana.  
My dear Grand Recorder:

"It has been some time since I have written to you and naturally this would have to be a request.

"Believe it or not, we have a class of candidates for the Order of the Temple and expect to go ahead after ten years of inactivity. \* \* \*

"Things appear much brighter for us than they have for many years and we certainly hope to increase our list of names on the next reports we send in. \* \* \* With very best wishes for 1939, I am,

Fraternally and Courteously yours,  
(Signed) MAURICE L. SHARP,  
Eminent Commander."

Review readers! If these isolated brethren of the far North can send such good news as this, surely we of the more blessed regions of Templary can from this find inspiration and energy. "Let us then be up and doing." No organization outside the Church ever had a more worthwhile objective. "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." Thus spoke our Lord, our own Great Captain to his disciples. These words come ringing down the centuries to us, for even now the fields are white unto the harvest. This perturbed world never needed the fine, magnanimous influences of Templary more than now. The civilization of twenty centuries is at the cross roads. Italy, Germany, Russia are hurling defiance at Masonry and its precepts. The priests of Baal seem to be in the ascendant. We must ring true. Our faith in the living God must not waver! Stand fast! Work and pray! "Thou O God! knowest our downsitting and our uprising, and understandest our thoughts afar off."

Let us take up the echo from the Far North, spread the good news of Templary among our brethren, by our daily deportment let our light shine, contact the new exalted Royal Arch Mason, in the flush of his experience in his search after truth among the ruins of the ancient glorious temple, destroyed by the enemies of the Living God, but again built more beautiful than before, and which was honored by the presence of Our Lord, who by His teaching laid the firm foundations for the civilization that has made this world, compared with his day, a better place to live in and work in. Carry on nobly!

SIR KNIGHT MAURICE L. SHARP,  
Anchorage, Eminent Commander.

SIR KNIGHT JOHN PARSONS,  
Anchorage, Recorder.

#### CANAL ZONE COMMANDERY No. 1

Ancon, Canal Zone

From the headquarters of our gateway to all the world comes an interesting statistical report for the year 1937.

They opened the year with a membership of...	251
Sir Knights created during the year.....	4
Affiliated during the year .....	1
Reinstated during the year .....	1
Total additions during the year .....	6

Demitted during the year .....	1
Died during the year .....	4
Suspended during the year .....	14
	19
Total losses during the year .....	19
Net loss for the year .....	13
	238
Members in good standing this report .....	238

Acting Recorder Louis A. Stilson makes no comment as to the tide of interest in Templar affairs in the Zone. However, there is one thing that steps out of this report and speaks to me. That is 14 suspended. I have never been in the Canal Zone, but, if there is one special tie that should draw men together in the splendid isolation of the Canal Zone, it should be that of Templary, with the double tie socially and spiritually, there would be every incentive to continue interest and close fellowship, with the result that such happenings as suspensions would be rare. We extend congratulations on the four accessions, the affiliate and the reinstatement. Our wish for this outpost Commandery is that in their next report they will show they have reclaimed the fourteen suspensions provided they are within their jurisdiction and worthy.

There is every incentive in Templary for the man of noble aspirations to exemplify the highest, truest type of manhood, and by their example to create in others the ambition to join such a fraternity of noble Christian ideals. The world still needs and has place for this style of manhood, especially of these United States, the greatest living democracy.

SIR KNIGHT JAMES H. SPALDING,  
Balboa Heights, C. Z., Eminent Commander.

SIR KNIGHT LOUIS A. STILSON,  
Balboa Heights, C. Z., Acting Recorder.

#### PORO RICO COMMANDERY No. 1

San Juan, P. R.

The following interesting letter was received from Sir Knight Clifford Sawyer Whall, Recorder of the Commandery, under date of September 21, 1938:

"Enclosed you will find the Roster of Porto Rico Commandery No. 1, up to and including December 31, 1937. In the synopsis of the Annual Reports of the Treasurer and Recorder you will note that the only change was one Sir Knight demitted.

"During the present year we have had a change for the better. So far we have created three new Knights and have another which we expect to include in this year. However, death has taken one of our members, and probably some will have to be dropped on account of non-payment of dues."

Statistical report from the Roster as follows: Members January 1, 1937, 54; Created, none; Demitted, 1; Members January 1, 1938, 53.

Analyzing the Roster it is found that of the 53 members 18 are non-residents, 35 reside on the island, and but 19 of them reside in San Juan. This it seems to me somewhat accounts for the fact that their official line contains five Past Commanders, not including the Treasurer and Recorder.

The Roster is a well drawn and interesting pamphlet. Our thanks to Sir Knight Whall for the copy. Also for the foreword of the doings of 1938. May God richly prosper the work in Porto Rico.

SIR KNIGHT VERNER E. TAYLOR,  
San Juan, Eminent Commander.

SIR KNIGHT CLIFFORD S. WHALL,  
San Juan, Recorder.

#### TAMPICO COMMANDERY No. 1

Tampico Mexico

This Subordinate Commandery, located in the oil fields of Mexico, has suffered from the effects of the expropriations of the oil properties by the Mexican Government. Stated Conclaves were held in 1937 as follows: January, March, April, June, October, November and December. Attendance at these Conclaves ranged from ten to thirteen, which is as well as the attendance at some Stated Conclaves in this country. No Orders were conferred, two were restored, five died, two were granted demits and two were suspended. Net loss during the year, seven. Present membership 122.

These figures are those furnished by Recorder Fred J. Bonner, Apartado 493, Tampico, Mexico. Sir Knight Fred says further:

"Conditions here are a little hard for us at present, but we feel confident that things will shape out all right in the course of a few months. However, we are not going to desert the ship as we have our own Temple here and expect to be on the job for all time."

Bravo Fred!

SIR KNIGHT C. W. CLOWER,  
Tampico, Eminent Commander.

SIR KNIGHT FRED J. BONNER,  
Tampico, Recorder.

#### SHANGHAI COMMANDERY, U. D.,

Shanghai, China

Since 1909 petitions to establish a Commandery under the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., have been made without success, due in part that such action might be in violation of the concordat existing between the Templar Bodies of England and Wales, and that of

the United States. In 1937 this doubt was removed by the assurance of Shanghai Preceptory, No. 1. England and Wales, and The Great Priory of England and Wales, that the formation of a Commandery by Dispensation from the Grand Encampment Knights Templar, U. S. A., would be most cordially welcomed.

To this end, and in anticipation of a visit by Sir Knight, Andrew D. Agnew, Most Eminent Grand Master, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U. S. A., late in 1936, a Shanghai Templar Club was formed to provide a nucleus on which to formulate the proposed Commandery. A request for Dispensation was signed by ten Knights Templar, then resident in Shanghai, and forwarded to the Grand Master for his consideration. Accompanying the request was a statement setting forth that Shanghai was the sixth largest city in the world, that its American population was 3,149 in 1934, with an increase in 1936 to about 5,000, and with expectation that Shanghai would in the no distant future become the largest city in the world. (All this before the Japanese started to revamp China.)

Result, Grand Master Agnew decided to visit Shanghai when returning from Manila, and while in Shanghai was able to confirm the statements presented and granted the dispensation during his visit there, at a dinner in his honor by Sir Knight Frithjof Hoenke, at his residence. Others in attendance were Sir Knights Donald A. Cook, Mokrejs, and Harrell, together with the Past Preceptors of Shanghai Preceptory No. 195 E. & W. who drank a toast to the new Commandery, after which the entire party attended a regular convocation of the Shanghai Preceptory, where our Grand Master was officially welcomed. All this augured well for the baby Commandery. Then later came the war.

Under date of October 22, 1938, Kristen Ahnfelt Persen, Generalissimo of the Commandery U. D., and the Personal Representative of the Grand Master submitted a most comprehensive resume of the development of this remote Commandery. An interesting paragraph, highly optimistic in tone follows:

"A special Conclave was held on Monday 1st, March, 1937, with every member and visitor present in full Templar uniform, either as prescribed by the General Grand Encampment of the U. S. A., or by the Great Priory of England and Wales. The Order of the Temple was conferred on six Knights of Malta, and it was recorded: 'That on this first occasion of the Order of the Temple in China, according to the Ritual of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, that every frater present was in full Templar uniform and that the work was performed in full form without the omission of a single line. The Asylum and Prelate's apartment were completely equipped with all necessary banners and regalia'."

Quoting Sir Knight Persen's report further:

"In view of the progress made and upon the recommendation submitted to the Grand Encampment by the Grand Master the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment held at Miami, Florida, in July,

1937, granted a Charter to the Shanghai Commandery No. 1, but upon the sudden outbreak of Sino-Japanese hostilities it was held back in view of the very uncertain situation visualized by the Grand Encampment. Since the Charter had not been received the regular Conclave for October, 1937, was not held."

In the interval between the Grand Master Agnew's visit and the receipt of advice, November 25, 1937, Shanghai Commandery lost by transfer to other points of commercial service Commander Donald A. Cook, and Captain General Frank C. Harrell, two of their most enthusiastic Knights. The new Dispensation appointed the following as officers, Sir Knight J. John Mokrejs, Commander, Sir Knight Kristen A. Persen, Generalissimo, and Sir Knight Manley C. Jensen, Captain General. Then followed the first Stated Conclave under the new Dispensation, on December 20, 1937, at which time the telegram from the Grand Master was read and other business transacted.

At the Conclave held on January 17, 1938, a letter was read from Grand Master, Most Eminent Sir Mark Norris, bearing date of November 23, 1937, confirming his telegram regarding the Dispensation, and expressing much concern over the effects of the hostilities on the new Commandery and asking for a full report.

The local officers recognizing the heavy handicap the military situation had imposed on them decided to reduce the number of Stated Conclaves to five per year, namely February, March, May, October and December. However, a Stated Conclave was held on June 20, 1938, at which the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross was conferred upon two candidates. Four Sir Knights were elected as affiliated members.

The feeling among the officers of Shanghai Commandery at present is that the crisis has passed, and that the future is encouraging. I have before me Commander Mokrejs General Order No. 12, dated October 8, 1938, inviting Sir Knights to attend their Stated Conclave of October 17 in full Templar uniform for attending to the business of the Commandery and to confer the Order of Malta upon two Companions.

Addressing the Sir Knights he says in part:

"The year ahead of us is a most important one and will require your wholehearted support. \*\*\* You are all to familiar with the unprecedented conditions brought about by hostilities. However, it is gratifying to reflect that in spite of this five affiliates were added to our membership, and two Companions are in waiting for the Order of Malta. \*\*\* The Grand Master has considered it best to withhold the Charter granted at Miami in July, 1937, pending clarification of the situation out here. Whether or not the Charter is granted depends on us. I should like to set as a goal ten new members for this year, and although political and economic conditions are still little improved, I am reasonably sure this objective can be realized if each Sir Knight will carry on with the same courage and interest as in the past and put his heart to the task before us."

The roll of members published with the General Order numbers twenty-four, five of whom were Knighted in 1938. With two to receive

the Order of Malta, and one petition to come before them prospects are favorable for a total increase of eight for the year. With such interest in Templary, obstacles act most favorably for Shanghai Commandery, U. D.

With continued and increasing zeal for Templary, we may well anticipate as the next news the granting of the Charter, and the long sought Constitution of this Commandery. Our wish is that the American colony of Shanghai may witness the effect of the Templar ideals upon its life to its own great moral stabilizing, and ultimate participation in its fine fellowships.

SIR KNIGHT J. JOHN MOKREJS,  
Shanghai, Eminent Commander.

SIR KNIGHT GEORGE D. BEATY,  
Shanghai, Acting Recorder.

#### HAVANA COMMANDERY No. 1

Havana, Cuba

The following interesting report was received from Roberto A. Andrade, Recorder, December 24, 1938.

In accordance with your request in letter of September 3, 1938. I am giving you here below a brief report on the activities of this Subordinate Commandery during the year ending June 30, 1938:

Number of Templars July 1, 1937.....	107
Knighted .....	3
Affiliated .....	0
Reinstated .....	0

There were no losses by Demit, Deaths, Suspensions or Expulsions during the year. With a clear gain of three by Knighting the total for June 30, 1938 is 110, a net gain of three. This is the only Subordinate Commandery reporting a gain for the year. Congratulations!

Continuing, Sir Knight Andrade reports:

"This country is hard hit by the new Naturalization Laws, which have practically shut out all immigration, whether it be of laborers, clerks, merchants, executives, etc. For this law provides that Cuban citizens must be given the preference in filling all kinds of jobs, and it is compulsory that at least 50% of all employes in any one concern be native Cubans.

"As no doubt you know, this Commandery draws its material from the only three Chapters that exist in Cuba, two of which have not offered us a candidate in several years. Then again, while we have a membership of 110, there are only forty-eight who live in Havana, the rest being distributed among towns outside of this city, and in the United States and other countries. I must state however that the 48 'Havanese' are with but one or two exceptions, enthusiastic Knights Templar, and I do

not think this Commandery has ever missed a Conclave for lack of attendance of the required number of Sir Knights. Particularly at Christmas Observance, our attendance is fully 95% or more of the resident Sir Knights. We are always favored with the attendance of sojourning Knights to the number of eight or more.

"Recent rumors of a new reciprocity treaty with the United States, which will enable American citizens once more to work in Cuba as in years past, with no restrictions whatever, have raised our hopes that new material will be available in the near future.

"While there are a great many Masons whose native language is Spanish, but who speak English fluently, it is also true that as a general rule they prefer to continue their Masonic work in the Scottish Rite, which is well established here, and which works in Spanish.

"As is the case with Subordinate Commanderies outside of the United States, it is not very often that we are honored with a visit from the Grand Encampment; but during my tenure of office as Recorder we have been visited twice by the Grand Master, Grand Recorder and other high officials, and have enjoyed their visits to the utmost, regretting only that they cannot possibly occur more often. There are no doubt a great many Sir Knights from various jurisdictions who visit Havana during the winter months; but it is very, very seldom that we are visited by any of them, possibly because they do not know that there is a Commandery in Havana. Perhaps you can spread the word among the various Grand Commanderies that we are always very happy to receive visitors, and that Havana Commandery No. 1, holds its regular Conclave the first Tuesday of every month, except July and August, at its Asylum, Aguiar Street No. 408.

"I trust that the information contained in this letter will be of some use to you, and take advantage of this opportunity to extend to you the greetings of the season. I also wish to add that this Commandery attends services on Easter Sunday and has its Annual Conclave on Good Friday. Both events draw the majority of the Sir Knights who live in Havana."

A supplementary report dated December 20, says:

"I note that you require some information that I did not furnish you in my former letter, and which I am noting herewith."

From this we find that attendance on Christmas Observance 1937 was 37, that attendance at the Annual Conclave, Good Friday, April 15, was 25, and that the average attendance at other Stated Conclaves averaged 15. We regard this as a remarkable showing, and proves beyond question that interest in Templary is at high tide, in fact this writer believes that on the resident membership basis it puts to shame the most of the rest of us. Again, Havana, we salute you! We hope it may be our good fortune to meet you in person some day in the no distant future, and enjoy your Templar hospitality. God speed you, and grant you that opportunity through reciprocity to add to your membership.

SIR KNIGHT HERBERT R. GUEST,  
Eminent Commander.

SIR KNIGHT ROBERTO A. ANDRADE,  
P. O. Box 2486, Havana, Recorder.

#### ALASKA COMMANDERY No. 1

Fairbanks, Alaska

From Sir Knight Frank R. Clark, Recorder of this Commandery under date of January 5, 1939 comes the following:

"Under date of September 23, 1938, Grand Master Mark Norris wrote me as Recorder of Alaska Commandery No. 1, K. T. of Fairbanks to immediately make and forward to you a report of the activities of the Alaska Commandery No. 1, for 1938, and, that such report should reach you prior to January 1, 1939.

"It has been impossible for me to do this for the reason that I have been confined to my bed at home for two months and am just now getting so that I can stand on my feet.

"I wish Sir Knight, that it were possible for us to sit down together and discuss the matter of Templar activities personally, as you could appreciate so much more from a conversation than you can by seeing it in print.

"The outlook for the Alaska Commandery is anything but encouraging. From membership of over one hundred Sir Knights the number has dwindled down to just thirty-six. Of these thirty-six, only twenty are direct residents of Fairbanks, and out of these twenty at the present time, only about one-half of them seem to manifest any interest in the organization or in trying to hold it together. The few of us remaining have many times attempted to have a Commandery meeting but we have not been able to do so for over a year. We have discussed the matter of delivering up our Charter but some of the old standbys still think there is a possibility of rebuilding and of bringing back the interest to where it should be. Others favor disbanding if they could do so without losing their membership and they take this attitude because at the present writing very few organizations have anything to offer in the way of inducement to warrant their attendance. What can, or would you advise? It is a little over a year ago since we were able to open up with a quorum, and then it was decided to remit the dues for 1938 and also to bring those in arrears into good standing, thereby hoping that those who had for one reason or another become delinquent would or could be induced to again take an interest and bring the Commandery back to where it once was. Seemingly this movement had no effect.

"Alaska is different from the States so far as a permanent residence is concerned and many of those on the roster are now living in the States.

"The writer is one of those who does not wish to see the Commandery terminated, and is ready and willing to do anything and everything to keep up the organization, but it is more than discouraging, and while a few of us here are in the same frame of mind, there seems to be nothing we can do to improve matters. You can readily see, therefore, that I am unable to make any report as to the activities of the Commandery, but only as to the inactivity and lack of interest.

"I would like very much to hear from you with suggestions as to what it would be possible to do to revive interest and put the Commandery back on its feet as an organization. I understand that many places on the outside are afflicted in the same way regarding membership. Can you help us out?

Fraternally and sincerely yours,  
(Signed) FRANK R. CLARK, Recorder."

On the surface this letter presents a pitiful situation. When we consider that all members were absolved from dues for 1938, that those in arrears had theirs remitted, in the hope of reviving their lagging interest, it would at least appear, that if any spirit of Knighthood remained in them, they would at least demonstrate it by attendance at a Stated Conclave and evolve ways and means to honor Templary by expressing their gratitude for courtesies extended, and by heart searching conference reach conclusions as to the future of their Commandery.

It is admitted "very few organizations have anything to offer in the way of inducement to warrant their attendance." With twenty resident members, all in good standing, at this writing, the most influential members of the group, say some four or five should contact the remaining 15 and lay before them the crisis confronting the Commandery, their need of Templary's good influences, what it means to those who have solemnly vowed to stand by each other through thick and thin, for better or for worse. To my mind there is no tie more sacred between men who have professed their faith in God, and acknowledged Jesus Christ as the Saviour of mankind, and through whose ministry and benign influences the civilization we enjoy today has been erected. Take away that faith, influence and practice and our civilization would crumble as did the walls of ancient Jericho. Witness conditions in Germany today. Masonry has been abolished, church doors are being nailed up, ministers are in concentration camps.

The Fairbanks Sir Knights should rally immediately. If the majority desire a new official setup they should immediately request a dispensation of the Grand Master to hold an election of officers, and then let no sacrifice be too great to prevent them from carrying on. With a full appreciation of their Templar ties, their sacredness and close communion they will discover they have something that does not exist in any other body.

## CANADA

### SOVEREIGN GREAT PRIORY OF CANADA

This from the Foreword of the Proceedings of the Fifty-fifth Annual Assembly, called to order at 9:30 a. m., August 2 and 3, 1938, at St John, New Brunswick.

"The printed page of the Proceedings is usually but the framework of the picture; much is left out, the background, the color, the impression conveyed to the onlooker, and other features and factors; otherwise to judge from the printed Proceedings, one Annual Assembly is very much like another."

But there was something different, something distinctive in the St John meeting. The Maritimes have an atmosphere all their own, and the St. John Knights made us feel that this was so. \*\*\*

"At 8:00 p. m., (Sunday) the Knights assembled in uniforms and mantles at the Masonic Hall, and under the direction of Rt. Em. Kt. James S. Hoyt, (Jim, for short), as Captain General, and led by the band of the St. John Fusiliers, marched through the streets, past the cenotaph, and on to historic Trinity Church. Hundreds lined the streets to witness the colorful parade and hear the strains of martial music. At the Church the Knights participated in an inspiring service, in which Canon Gordon C. Lawrence read the prayers, and the Bishop of Nova Scotia, Grand Chaplain, preached an eloquent sermon, the Grand Master read the Lesson, and the choir and large congregation joined heartily in singing the old and militant hymns of the Christian faith. At mid-day (Monday), nearly all sat down to a luncheon served in the ballroom of the hotel, at which M. Em. Kt. A. B. Barr presided, and we heard excellent, happy and humorous addresses from the Grand Master of the U. S. A. and the Grand Commander of Maine. \*\*\* Then as the session closed we witnessed what few many witness again, our distinguished visitors from the Motherland in their gorgeous robes, the Grand Master of the United States, our own Past Grand Masters, and the Supreme Grand Master, pass out between the lines of Great Priory, truly a memorable moment. That was the last scene in the memorable celebration this year of the Bicentenary of the founding of the first Masonic Lodge on Canadian soil, as our visitors left us that evening for Boston. About 9:30 p. m. a grand reception was staged in the ballroom, when the Grand Master and Mrs. Harris, and Em. Kt. Fred B. Brenan and Mrs. Brenan received the many guests. Led by the ubiquitous and indefatigable St. John Knights and to the compelling music of the orchestra, the hours seemed to pass all too quickly."

And now to the Proceedings! To sit in the Assembly is for a visitor from the States an inspiration as he sees row on row of Sir Knights in white mantles, red bordered, and with the Cross of Salem on the left breast, all surmounted by a chapeau with a black plume.

"The Knights being called to order at 9:30 a. m. and arranged under their respective banners, the Deputy Grand Master R. E. Kt. F. Davey Diamond, directed the escort to be formed for the reception of the Most Eminent the Supreme Grand Master. The escort then retired and escorted the Most Eminent Knight Reginald V. Harris, into Great Priory, and the Arch of Steel being formed the Supreme Grand Master was received in due form attended by the Grand Chancellor, the Grand Master's Banner Bearer and the Past Supreme Grand Masters and conducted to the Dais and saluted by the Knights. \*\*\* Honorary Members elected. M. Em. Kt. W. W. Williamson moved, seconded by R. Em. Kt. F. Davey Diamond, that Honorary rank be conferred on the following distinguished visitors: Hon. Supreme Grand Master, M. Em. Kt. Mark Norris, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, U. S. A.; Hon. Deputy Grand Master, R. Em. Kt. Robert L. Lloyd, Prov. Prior, Oxfordshire and Berkshire, K. C. T., together with four other distinguished Knights from Great Britain. The motion prevailed unanimously. Following this action, the following distinguished visitors were officially received and welcomed."

The Most Eminent Grand Master, Mark Norris, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States, accompanied by Right Eminent Knight Frank E. Southard, Grand Commander of Maine, were introduced by M. Em. Kt. A. B. Barr in fitting terms and they were cordially welcomed by the Supreme Grand Master, who informed M. Em. Kt. Mark Norris that he had that morning been elected an Honorary

Supreme Grand Master of the Sovereign Priory of Canada. M. Em. Kt. Norris responded to the welcome and in felicitous terms expressed his warm appreciation of the honor conferred on him by this Supreme Body. The conferring of this signal honor upon our beloved Grand Master will be received with deep appreciation by his fraters of the Grand Encampment, and members of the various Grand Commanderies throughout the United States. And now to the Address of Sir Knight, Reginald V. Harris, Supreme Grand Master :

"It is my great privilege to extend to you a most cordial welcome to this the Fifty-fifth Annual Assembly of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, meeting for the fourth time in our history in the historic city of St. John. May I remind you that in these Maritime Provinces of Canada the history of this country begins. It is as it were the *north-east* corner of the Continent and on this corner-stone the present structure has been erected. \* \* \* Here in 1783, 155 years ago, the Loyalist exiles landed and founded the city of St. John, a city of romance and achievement. The harbour of St. John is one of the nation's great ports and is open at all seasons to the commerce of the Seven Seas. \* \* \*

"The past year in Canada has been one of doubt and uncertainty, due to the unsettled state of the world; political unrest, wars and rumors of wars, industrial disputes. Freemasonry has been suppressed in dictator countries, and nearly everywhere else in the world, has seemed to hesitate to advance and in many places, has done well to hold its ground. In Canada, Free Masonry and Knight Templary have been affected more or less seriously but not beyond recovery, far from it. There are evident and obvious signs of a new light on the horizon. A study of our statistics and a fair comparison with previous years, gives us new encouragement."

Gentle tribute is then paid to those Knights who have laid down earthly cares during the past year.

Under the head, Monthly Messages; the Grand Master says :

"Beginning October 1, I issued every month a bulletin containing a message to the members of the Order throughout Canada. This has been sent to the Presiding Preceptors, and Secretaries, and to the leaders in the Order. \* \* \* Judging by the numerous letters received from Preceptories and members of the Order everywhere, expressing their appreciation of these little Messages, I am constrained to advise their continuance. \* \* \* Early in the year I requested the Registrars to advise me of the installation of all Knights Templar in their respective Preceptories (in U. S. A. receiving the Order of the Temple). As each Knight was enrolled his name was sent to me and I wrote a personal letter, welcoming the new Knight into the Order and urging his personal interest in its work and affairs. The reaction was pronounced and I have received many letters like the following :

"Allow me to thank you for your letter of welcome into the Knight Templar Order in Canada. \* \* \* It was a deeply impressive ceremony for me and one that will long act as a help and a bulwark against the fears of our day that religion as the supreme moral ethic of our time is on the wane. One could not help but thank God for the evident sincerity of purpose of all present and of their earnest desire to have one realize that in the ceremonies lay no idle and dead following of ritual, but that in all the work was a tremendous challenge to give of one's best that the cause of Christian life and service may become the way the truth and the Life."

Continuing under section 'Templar Honours' the Grand Master says :

"For some years I have felt we should follow the example of other Great Priory practice and confer the honours of Knight Commander of the Temple, and Knight Grand Cross of the Order upon those who render distinguished service to the Order. When the Canadian Knight Templar body was known as the National Great Priory of Canada under the Great Priory of England and Wales, that is, between 1876 and 1884, the Grand Master in England, H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII, on the recommendation of the Grand Prior of Canada, conferred such honours on a number of Canadian Knights. All these have passed away excepting R. Em. Kt. E. H. D. Hall, K. C. T., of Peterborough, Ontario. Since we became a Sovereign Body fifty-five years ago, no such honours have been conferred. \* \* \* Following the example of other Sovereign Great Priories, it is suggested we should confer these honours on a very select few, limiting the number in each class to say six, and twenty-one, respectively, or twenty-seven in all; elected under a procedure which will ensure the selection of members of the Order who have rendered distinctive, noteworthy or meritorious service to Freemasonry, its extension, jurisprudence, literature, history, ritual or organization. \* \* \* If this proposal is approved by you, as I hope it will, then it should stand over until next year, when the procedure to be adopted can be submitted and considered. Let us make haste slowly."

Of the Knights Templar Orphans Fund the Grand Master says :

"I should particularly like to direct the attention of the members of Great Priory to the outstanding record of Temiskaming Preceptory No. 60. This Preceptory has, or has had, 442 members on its rolls and every one of these members, alive or dead, suspended or demitted, has to his credit \$10.00, having been paid to the Great Priory for the K. T. Orphan Fund. The Preceptory itself is in excellent financial shape, with a surplus of assets over liabilities of \$33,500.00."

In closing his Address the Grand Master says :

"In addition to my duties as Grand Master, I have followed up all the outstanding Preceptory histories, written all the Fraternal Reviews of Proceedings, and carried on correspondence with the chairman of all committees respecting the work assigned to them. It may be of interest to all present that twenty-five years ago today I was initiated into Masonry. During that quarter of a century the Craft has been more than kind to me, honoring me far beyond my merits and deserts. \* \* \* I have put into my work the best I could give, and while that has fallen far short of my hopes and your expectations, the work has been for me one of great enjoyment and inspiration. May all our efforts be for the advancement of the Order of the Temple and the Honour and Glory of the Cross, and may the Great Captain of our Salvation ever have us in His Holy keeping."

No one who has read the Address of Grand Master Harris, and has had the good fortune to personally meet him can fail to realize that he is an outstanding Templar of his Sovereign Great Priory. He emanates energy and good-will. It was this writer's great pleasure to be greeted by him and welcomed to a seat in the Assembly of which I now write.

The Grand Chancellor's report yields the following statistics:

Installations (Creations) .....	171
Affiliations .....	13
Restorations .....	67
St. Stephen Preceptory .....	50
Deaths .....	198
Withdrawals .....	99
Suspensions .....	226
Net Loss .....	222

Strikingly similar to conditions existing in some of our own Grand Commanderies is the following from the Grand Chancellor's report:

"I wish to draw your special attention to our mounting death list, which this year represents a loss of 23.6 per thousand, as against a loss of less than 10 per thousand for the whole Dominion. This situation is by no means peculiar to this body, but is general in all fraternal bodies on this continent, but it emphasizes the heavy loss shown due to the lack of fresh blood in our fraternal institutions."

The report of the Committee on Jurisprudence includes in its report the following:

"We join with the Supreme Grand Master in welcoming to this meeting of Great Priory so many distinguished visitors from England, and M. Em. Kt. Mark Norris, the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States. These visits are indeed a high water mark in the life of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, and it is only fitting that it should be properly recorded. \* \* \* We note that the Supreme Grand Master has been very modest in his reference to his activities, and visits during the past year. \* \* \* We trust that the inspiration of his presence will have brought new life to those Preceptories that have been finding the way difficult, during these unsettled times, and that his visits to related bodies of Masonry will bring results that will prove of mutual benefit."

The report of Committee on Condition of the Order, commenting on the reports of the Provincial Grand Priors of the thirteen Templar Districts of Canada calls attention to numerous Preceptories that have not bonded their Registrars and Treasurers, and urges that this be done.

"They also report lagging Preceptories. Large amounts of arrears of dues, small attendance, no candidates, etc. \* \* \* Before these Preceptories are allowed to go out of existence and their warrants returned, Great Priory might try out an experiment on one or two of them.

"A well-skilled frater might be sent to the Preceptory with authority to spend, say, parts of six months in trying to resurrect it. He would add new life to its proceedings and with new ideas and enthusiasm might be able to put it on its feet. \* \* \* If the members of the Preceptory will concentrate on good fellowship and comradeship at their rehearsals, attendance will increase and all other desired effects will follow."

We note with interest that our good neighbor, M. Em. Kt. Allan Barr was re-elected a Governor of the Orphans Fund for the next three years.

As we read the Proceedings we discover that demission or suspension of a member in either Lodge or Chapter, does not at present affect his

standing in his Preceptory. Unless the Preceptory takes action, the good standing of the Sir Knight is not affected.

From Committee on Templar Dead we glean loving tribute:

"It is not for us to lament at our loss, but rather for us to bear our grief with the same dignity and Christian fortitude that these our departed fraters showed during their sojourn with us—it is for us to take up their challenge and carry on their good work—it is for us to rededicate our service anew to thoes principles loved so well by them—their faith, enthusiasm, zeal, devotion and nobility of effort is for us to emulate—they are not dead—their spirits still live—they have gone to perfect in a larger life the aims and ideals for which they strove while here—our physical vision is too faulty to see them, but they are still marching with us in love of our labor—their memories will abide in our hearts—their kindly spirits will hover about us, inspiring and guiding us, and, finally welcoming us to their Celestial Host."

Sir Knight John C. Reid, Chairman, in the foregoing, displays a wonderful command of language, in voicing the tender and affectionate feeling for the Knights who have laid down their sword and assumed their crown.

#### REVIEW

The Review, topical in character, is by M. Em. Kt. Sir Reginald V. Harris, Supreme Grand Master. It is on the same high level with his other labors in the interest of Masonry. He has singled out interesting and vital highlights from the various Proceedings of the Grand Encampment, and the Grand Commanderies. The statement of Most Eminent Grand Master Agnew, concerning the Educational Foundation makes interesting reading. The excerpt from the Address of Sir Knight Charles N. Fowler, Grand Commander, 1937, Kansas, "Is Knight Templarism Masonry?" is given extended notice by Sir Knight Harris. This writer hopes the Canadian Fraters will read it thoughtfully. It both explains and inspires. Extended notice is also given our own Grand Master, Mark Norris' Address before the Grand Commandery of Ohio, 1938, who concludes that the shrinkage in membership and interest may be properly lodged with the Constituent Commandery officers and Sir Knights. In part he says:

"We are likely to blame anybody else except ourselves for these losses and the conditions to which I have alluded. \* \* \* But very few of them undertake to load on their own shoulders any of the blame for these conditions. \* \* \* I do not believe that the average Commandery undertakes to do enough for its own members to keep them interested and attracted and in attendance."

Many others of our Sir Knights have been liberally quoted.

"As one Grand Reviewer to another" this writer voices thanks for Sir Kt. Harris' generous references in his Review to our Grand Commandery Review.

M. E. Kt. REGINALD V. HARRIS,  
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Supreme Grand Master.

M. E. Kt. W. W. WILLIAMSON,  
Montreal, Quebec, Grand Chancellor.

Next Assembly Conclave, Stratford, Ontario. Date to be announced.

## ENGLAND AND WALES

The full designation of the Orders of English Templary is, The Great Priory of the United Religious and Military Orders of the Temple, and of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta, in England and Wales and the Dependencies Thereof. The Proceedings of this Order is issued under designation, "CALENDAR" for the year commencing January 1st, A. L. 5941, A. D. 1937, A. O. 819, containing the Proceedings of the Great Priory on the 21st May, 1937, 10th December, 1937.

The minutes of a Chapter of the Great Priory holden at Mark Mason's Hall, Great Queen Street, London, W. C. 2, on Friday, the 21st May, A. L. 5941, A. D. 1937, A. O. 819, at 5:30 o'clock. Present, on the Throne, The Most Eminent and Supreme Pro Grand Master, The Earl of Harewood, K. G., G. C. V. O., D. S. O., G. C. T. The Very High and Eminent Great Seneschal, Lord Harris, M. C., D. L., G. C. T., Knights Grand Cross. B. Marr Johnson, Major T. G. L. Lumley-Smith, D. S. O., F. S. A., A. C. Powell. Then follows a full list of other officers and members, many in number and rank. Then, The Knights having formed the Arch of Steel, the Most Eminent and Supreme Pro Grand Master, attended by the Great Officers, entered and ascended the Throne.

A Chapter of Grand Priory was opened with solemn prayer. The Great Registrar called the Muster Roll. The Most Eminent and Supreme Pro Grand Master was saluted under the direction of the Great Marshal.

### THE MOST EMINENT AND SUPREME PRO GRAND MASTER:

Brother Knights, I thank you for your fraternal greeting. The Minutes of the regular meeting held on 11th December, 1936, having been printed and circulated, is it your pleasure that they be taken as read, and confirmed? (The motion was put and carried.)

### THE MOST EMINENT AND SUPREME PRO GRAND MASTER:

Brother Knights, I have great pleasure in announcing to you that His Majesty the King has been pleased to accept the appointment of Past Grand Master, and also the dignity of Knight Grand Cross of the Order. (Applause). I call upon the Great Chancellor.

### VERY EMINENT KNIGHT JOHN F. CLEEVES, K. C. T.:

Most Eminent and Supreme Pro Grand Master, in the unavoidable absence of the Great Chancellor, I beg leave to move that the report of the Grand Master's Council, which has been freely circulated, be taken as read, and that it be received and entered in the Minutes.

### VERY EMINENT KNIGHT DAVID WADSWORTH SMITH:

Most Eminent and Supreme Pro Grand Master, I beg to second the Motion. (The Motion was put and carried.)

## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL:

The Grand Master's Council has the honor to report as follows:

### FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Council has satisfaction in reporting that the most harmonious relations continue to exist between the Governing Bodies of the Holy House of the Temple throughout the entire World.

Then follows a report of the deaths of twenty Brother Knights, several of high rank in the Great Priory. Then a list of appointments to various offices, Warrants issued for new Preceptories. Then followed the conferral of various and sundry honors to distinguished Knights and their paying homage to their superior in accordance with the Statutes and Customs of the Order. All of which is conducted with precision and great dignity. Closing, alms amounting to Fifteen Pounds, no shillings and six-pence were collected.\* The Chapter closed and the Knights joined in singing the National Anthem.

The meeting of December 10, 1937 follows similar lines of action, with the addition of the following:

"Brother Knights, you will be aware that since our last meeting the Order has suffered a very great loss by the death of our Great Treasurer, Sir Philip Colville Smith. He has been Great Treasurer for the past twelve years and he was also Provincial Prior for Oxfordshire and Berkshire. You all know what great services he rendered, not only to this Order but to masonry in general. I suppose no one here regrets his loss more than I do, because he proposed me for installation in this Order a good many years ago when I was at Oxford. None of us knows how much this Order and masonry in general, owes to Sir Colville Smith. I am not going to dwell upon his achievements, because so much has already been said of him, but I feel that we as Knights Templar would like to pay our tribute to the memory of a great and gallant Knight. Gallant I am sure you will say he was when you recall the strenuous efforts he made during the last few years of his life, when, as you know, he was far from well, and yet continued to carry out all his masonic duties. Brother Knights, I ask you to rise for a moment in respect to his memory." (All the Knights rose and stood to order in silence.)

Again the alms were collected, £10-0s-3d, closing the Chapter, all singing the National Anthem.

Preceding the Great Priory of December 10th, a Chapter of the Great Priory of Malta was opened, with The Very High and Eminent Great Seneschal, Lord Harris M. C., G. C. T., on the Throne, and five Knights at the East Table, The Great Prelate, and at the Octagon Table in the West eight Knights. The guards of Banners, "B," "L," "D," "R," "A," were formed by the members of the Grand Master's Body Guard. Fourteen postulants received the Mediterranean Pass and were

\*Equal to \$75.12 in American funds.

afterwards admitted to the Order of Malta, the Accolade being given by the Very High and Eminent Great Seneschal, Lord Harris. The rest of the volume is devoted to a roster of the Preceptories and an alphabetical list of the membership lists of officers of preceptories, etc.

No figures are shown as to membership, etc.

### No Review.

MAJOR SIR THOMAS LUMLEY-SMITH, D. S. O.,  
Mark Mason's Hall, London, W. C. 2, Great Vice-Chancellor.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS  
Of Grand and Subordinate Commanderies for the Years 1928-1938, Inclusive

State	Year	Place of Enclosure	1938 Date	Grand Commander	1938 Date	Grand Commander	1938 Date	Grand Commander	1938 Date	Grand Commander	1938 Date	Grand Commander
Alabama	1860	Montgomery	Apr. 27	Henry J. Porter, Jr.	Yes	2,482	11	328				
Arizona	1893	Tucson	Apr. 4	Shelton G. Dowell	Yes	2,480	1	49				
Arkansas	1872	Hot Springs	May 17	Francis J. Scully	Yes	1,313	11	162				
California	1858	Santa Monica	Apr. 18	Oakley W. Morton	Yes	10,457	14	1,068				
Colorado	1876	Denver	Sept. 23	W. Everett Gragg	No	3,374	50	474				
Connecticut	1827	New Haven	May 3	Irvine A. May	Yes	4,468	20	249				
Dist. of Columbia	1896	Washington	May 9	Maurice L. Brewton	Yes	2,164	3	155				
Florida	1895	Fort Myers	May 18	William B. Greer	Yes	2,187	6	205				
Georgia	1860	Fitzgerald	May 4	Frank C. Jones	Yes	2,691	40	844				
Idaho	1904	Boise	May 19	Walter H. Bristol	Yes	1,039	4	370				
Illinois	1857	Peoria	Oct. 8	Cedric C. Howland	Yes	21,239	28	1,186				
Indiana	1854	Lafayette	May 11	Fred N. Prass	Yes	8,365	14	691				
Iowa	1864	Spirit Lake	July 5	Hubert Schouten	Yes	6,399	89	625				
Kansas	1868	Emporia	May 10	Dwight M. Numbers	Yes	7,471	25	908				
Kentucky	1847	Covington	May 18	Henry L. Nichols	Yes	4,039	43	756				
Louisiana	1864	Lake Charles	Apr. 25	D. Peter LaGuens	No	1,238	8	176				
Maine	1852	Portland	May 5	Frank E. Fleming	Yes	5,950	22	421				
Maryland	1871	Cumberland	May 18	Edwin S. White	Yes	3,375	18	208				
Mass. & Rhode Is.	1805	Boston	Oct. 19	Adelbert E. Place	No	17,206	122	1,045				
Michigan	1857	Grand Rapids	June 7	Fred H. Locke	Yes	9,065	57	71				
Minnesota	1865	St. Paul	June 22	Jacob Flegier	Yes	5,589	39	679				
Mississippi	1857	Natchez	May 4	W. Claude Williams, D.G.C.	Yes	1,570	33	176				
Missouri	1860	Jefferson City	May 17	James A. Kinder	No	7,942	137	2,010				
Montana	1888	Dillon	June 8	Morris D. Rowland	No	1,656	20	336				
Nebraska	1871	Fremont	Apr. 21	Andrew Cosh, D.G.C.	No	2,526	9	331				
					Total	134,885	824	14,213				

## A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF TEMPLARY, 1938—(Continued)

State	Year	Winnemucca	June 6	Walter S. Macpherson	Yes	300	7	58
New Hampshire	1918	Laconia	Oct. 4	Oscar J. George	Yes	2,070	8	188
New Jersey	1860	Trenton	Mar. 4	Kennington L. Thompson	Yes	4,402	23	286
New Mexico	1901	Albuquerque	Oct. 21	Thomas J. Hall	Yes	999	0	123
New York	1814	Kingston	June 13	Chalmers L. Pancoast	Yes	19,230	188	2,384
North Carolina	1881	Greensboro	May 9	Howard G. Etheridge	No	2,369	13	571
North Dakota	1890	Mandan	May 16	Louis F. Smith	No	1,262	12	746
Ohio	1843	Cincinnati	Oct. 12	George Nagel	Yes	21,974	55	1,061
Oklahoma	1896	Tulsa	May 3	Merl P. Long	Yes	3,755	14	358
Oregon	1887	Portland	Apr. 22	Edwin O. Potter	Yes	2,257	4	324
Pennsylvania	1797	Philadelphia	May 24	Louis U. Strassburger	Yes	27,057	0	1,187
South Carolina	1907	Camden	Apr. 12	W. Robin Zemp	...	1,092	36	330
South Dakota	1884	Spearfish	Aug. 29	William R. Cleland	Yes	1,035	24	225
Tennessee	1859	Nashville	May 16	March E. McClanahan	Yes	2,252	9	234
Texas	1855	Beaumont	Apr. 25	George H. Haase	Yes	9,396	302	2,458
Utah	1910	Park City	May 10	Roland P. Diehl	Yes	831	7	76
Vermont	1824	Barre	June 6	Wilbur D. Mower	Yes	2,302	11	207
Virginia	1823	Lynchburg	May 12	Carlton R. Moore	Yes	4,333	18	362
Washington	1887	Tacoma	May 9	Fred M. Bond	Yes	3,411	9	409
West Virginia	1874	Grafton	May 18	William A. Beavers	Yes	4,465	20	447
Wisconsin	1859	Manitowoc	June 24	Oscar A. Richter	Yes	7,761	18	814
Wyoming	1888	Casper	July 11	Forest G. Wheeler	Yes	1,117	10	226
					Total	124,570	788	13,779
					Page One Total	134,885	824	14,213
					Grand Total	259,455	1,612	27,992

\* This refers to whether the photograph of the Grand Commander reproduced in the proceedings was taken with, or without Templar uniform.

## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

## Condensed Operating Statement, Profit &amp; Loss Statement, Balance Sheet, Comparative Operating Statements and Balance Sheets, as of December 31, 1937

## OPERATING STATEMENT

For the year ending December 31, 1937

Cash on hand or in bank, January 1, 1937	\$ 545,978.73
<b>Receipts</b>	
Principal repayments on Student Loans	\$478,365.55
Interest receipts from all sources	150,168.49
Assessments (delinquent and additional)	2,634.85
Sale of securities	11,990.26
Contingent Fund Reimbursements	5,519.70
Dividends from closed Banks	2,844.99
Donation	1.00
Recovery of Loans Charged off	581.30
Recovery of expense items	77.38
Assessments in transit, December 31, 1936 (Illinois)	475.15
Losses restored (Wisconsin)	490.73
Reimbursements for expense from Grand Commandery (N. M.)	.42
Total receipts	\$ 653,149.82
<b>Disbursements</b>	
Loans to students in 1937	\$244,717.82
Student loan commitments payable December 31, 1936	9,322.50
Transferred to Contingent Funds	91,985.02
Purchase of securities	335,857.24
Repayment of borrowed money (Georgia)	2,500.00
Deferred Charges	594.00
G. Washington University Fellowship (Tennessee)	1,000.00
Furniture and Fixtures	407.28
Refund of Grand Encampment bonus (Florida)	500.00
Refund to Gr. Comdy for expense advanced (Georgia)	2,143.36
Returned to Grand Encampment for custody (Tampico)	618.06
Total disbursements	\$ 689,645.28
Balance cash on hand or in bank, December 31, 1937	\$ 509,483.27

## PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT

As of December 31, 1937

Total Operating Profit to January 1, 1937..... \$ 314,979.20

<b>1937 Statement</b>	
Interest Receipts	\$150,168.49
Interest added to securities	500.00
Interest added to Contingent Fund	8.43
Contingent Fund balance not reported	169.52
Recovery of Loans Charged off	621.30
Losses restored (Wisconsin)	490.73
Refund of Expense Items	77.39
Balance in Contingent Funds	15,807.92
Expense payable (1936 P. & L.)	215.15
Reimb. for interest charged off	473.50
Reimb. for loans charged off	5,519.70
Reimbursement for cost of secs.	303.77
	\$ 174,355.89
Transferred to Contingent Funds	\$ 91,985.02
Balance in Cont. Funds January 1, 1937	8,175.98
Balance in Cont. Fund not reported	169.52
Interest on Cont. Fund	8.43
Recovery on loan charged off placed in Contingent Fund	40.00
Reimbursement for loans charged off	5,519.70
Loan Charged off to General Fund	553.00
Adjustment in loan accounts	80.26
Collection, fee retained by agency	54.16
Collection, embezzled by agency	208.00
Assessments charged off	2,906.05
Due Gr. Comdy for assessments paid but not collected	812.00
Loss and expense on securities	1,659.10
Cash in closed banks charged off	273.04
Depreciation on furniture and fixtures	46.21
Interest cost on purchase of securities	82.74
Reimbursement to G. C. for expense	2,143.36
Deferred charge written off	149.70
	\$ 114,866.27
Net Operating profit for the year ending December 31, 1937.	\$ 59,489.62
Total Operating Profit to December 31, 1937.	\$ 374,468.82

## BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 1937

<b>Assets</b>	
Cash on hand or in bank available for loans	\$ 509,483.27
Student Loans outstanding	2,456,786.23
Investments	1,385,885.39
Contingent Fund Balances	15,807.92
Cash in Closed Banks	28,554.02
Due from Grand Commandery Assessments	14,259.50
Furniture and fixtures	1,721.93
Transfers not approved by Grand Encampment (Kansas)	21,171.49
Fellowship at George Washington University (Tenn.)	3,000.00
Donated to Grand Encampment Fund (Tampico No. 1 and Ivanhoe No. 2)	1,216.06
Deferred Charges	5,093.75
Emergency Fund (Ohio)	200.00
Accrued interest on investments	631.26
Check in transit from Contingent Fund (Tenn.)	503.77
Total current assets	\$ 44,444,314.59
<b>Deferred Assets</b>	
Accrued Interest due on Student Loans	\$ 252,920.46
Uncollectible Loans assigned to Trustees	5,930.44
Total deferred assets	\$ 258,850.90
Total assets	\$ 4,703,165.49
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Student Loan Commitments	\$ 7,374.19
Student Loan Commitments 1936 (Canal Zone—no 1937 report)	620.00
Trust Funds	8,177.00
Accounts payable (Ohio)	812.00
Total Liabilities	\$ 16,983.19
<b>Net Worth</b>	
Total Received from Assessments	\$3,998,001.64
Total Operating Profit	374,468.82
Donations	60,791.38
Accrued Interest due on student loans (not included in Profit)	252,920.44
	\$4,686,182.30

## COMPARATIVE OPERATING STATEMENTS

	Year Ending Dec. 31, 1936	Year Ending Dec. 31, 1937
Cash on hand or in Bank, January 1.....	\$ 526,127.28	\$ 545,978.73
Principal Repayments on student loans.....	508,052.07	478,365.55
Interest receipts from all sources.....	152,504.45	150,168.49
Assessments (delinquent and additional).....	2,909.25	2,634.85
Sale of securities.....	26,821.54	11,990.26
Contingent Fund reimbursements to General Fund.....	2,183.11	5,519.70
Dividends from Closed Banks.....	4,802.98	2,844.99
Donations.....	17.45	1.00
Recovery on loans charged off.....	1,130.05	581.30
Recovery of colln. expense items.....	839.29	71.38
Assessments in transit received.....		475.15
Transfers in error refunded.....	123.10	
Loan accounts restored after charge-off.....		490.73
Miscellaneous.....	162.67	.42
 Total Receipts .....	 \$1,225,673.24	 \$1,199,128.55
Loans to Students.....	\$ 227,904.19	\$ 244,717.82
Student Loan commitments payable January 1.....	8,702.50	9,322.50
Transferred to Contingent Funds.....	87,026.78	91,985.02
Purchase of securities.....	346,135.94	335,857.24
Repayment of borrowed money.....	3,500.00	2,500.00
Deferred Charges.....	5,063.45	594.00
Geo. Washington University Fellowship.....	1,000.00	1,000.00
Furniture and Fixtures.....	361.65	407.28
Refund to G. E. of bonus given Florida in 1925.....		500.00
Relinquished to G. E. by Tampico No. 1.....		618.06
Refunded to Gr. Comdy. for expense advanced.....		2,143.36
 Total Disbursements .....	 \$ 679,694.51	 \$ 689,645.28
Balance Cash on Hand .....	\$ 545,978.73	\$ 509,483.27

## COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEETS

	Dec. 31, 1935	Dec. 31, 1936	Dec. 31, 1937
<b>Assets:</b>			
Student Loans Outstanding.....	\$2,969,505.16	\$2,695,131.83	\$2,456,786.23
Cash on hand or in bank available for loans.....	526,127.28	545,978.73	509,483.27
Investments.....	745,370.02	1,063,677.51	1,385,885.39
Contingent Fund unexpended balances.....		8,175.98	15,807.92
Due from unpaid Grand Commandery assessments.....	21,507.95	19,247.35	14,259.50
Cash in Closed Banks.....	36,957.91	31,672.05	28,554.02
Furniture and Fixtures.....	807.89	1,360.86	1,721.93
Transfer (diverted funds) not approved, in process of adjustment.....		21,171.49	21,171.49
Fellowship grant (Tenn. in honor of P. W. Weidner).....	1,000.00	2,000.00	3,000.00
Relinquished to G. E. Fund (Tampico No. 1 and Ivanhoe No. 2).....	598.00	598.00	1,216.06
Deferred Charges and other miscellaneous.....	955.86	5,539.02	6,428.78
 Total Assets .....	 \$4,331,615.35	 \$4,394,552.82	 \$4,444,314.59
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Student Loan Commitments and Loans payable.....	\$ 14,712.53	\$ 12,657.65	\$ 8,806.19
Trust Funds.....	8,177.00	8,177.00	8,177.00
 Total Liabilities .....	 \$ 22,889.53	 \$ 20,834.65	 \$ 16,983.19
<b>Net Worth:</b>			
Total Received from Assessments.....	\$3,995,824.79	\$3,996,948.59	\$3,998,001.64
Donations.....	62,103.83	61,790.38	60,791.38
Net Operating Profit.....	250,797.20	314,979.20	374,468.82
 Total Capital .....	 \$4,308,725.82	 \$4,373,718.17	 \$4,427,331.40

In addition to the total net worth as of December 31, 1936 there is accrued interest due of..... \$275,661.86  
 In addition to the total net worth as of December 31, 1937 there are items due of..... 258,850.90  
 (Representing accrued interest due on student loans and uncollectible loans assigned to the Trustees).